

THE AUSTIN

CHRONICLE

District 48 & CapMetro Labor Updates

FronteraFest Long Fringe Reviewed

Nu Age Cafe: Revelatory Vegan

Charles Manson Is the Messiah

Jerry Lynn Williams: Songwriter of the Spheres

HOLY
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Family Edition

THE NEW TEXAS FAMILY PLANNING

Anti-Abortion Politics and Slashed Budgets
Undermine Women's Health Care

by Jordan Smith p.26

Vol. 25 No. 22 ★ austinchronicle.com ★ January 27, 2006

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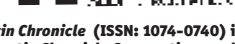
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The Austin Chronicle (ISSN: 1074-0740) is published by The Austin Chronicle Corporation weekly 52 times per year at 4000 N. I-35, Austin, TX 78751. ©2006 Austin Chronicle Corp. All rights reserved. Subscriptions: One Year: \$60 2nd class. Half-year: \$35 2nd class. Periodicals Postage Paid at Austin, TX. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Austin Chronicle, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765.

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Earth, Stones, and Thorns of the Wild Ground Growing

The poetry of the right-wing soul: an appreciation

BY LOUIS BLACK

"In my hour of darkness, in my time of need," as Gram Parsons prayed, I often just want quiet and coolness: a state such that, even with eyes open, it is as though they are shut. I hardly feel attached to my body. I'm in the most limited contact possible with the ever annoying I of I, who never really seems to shut up.

Often I come to this state when watching movies or listening to music, especially in the car. Reading usually takes me somewhere else, somewhere emotionally encasing and very, very familiar – it is the most controlled of worlds. Reading a novel, biography, or history, racing along, deep into it, my senses go senseless.

But sometimes I need to go some place more intense, more overwhelming. A place that cuts me adrift and celebrates not "me," but all of us, humanity reaching toward the sky, free and yearning for the unknown.

This can come from reading a most treasured work (any of Isaac Babel's and/or Dashiell Hammett's short stories, Jim Harrison's *Legends of the Fall*, anything by Carson McCullers, John Irving's *The World According to Garp*, any of Chester Himes' Coffin Ed and Grave Digger Jones Harlem novels, Robert Coover's story "The Babysitter," anything by Andre Dubus, Harlan Ellison, Raymond Carver, and Horace McCoy – this list could go on and on). Or I read certain comic books: Will Eisner's *The Spirit*, Jack Cole's *Plastic Man*, any *Phantom* comic book, all the original *Captain Marvels*, and on.

But the best, the best way to go into this state, is still poetry. All these years later, it is poetry still.

Especially those writers so drunk on words they can't help themselves, addicted to words and rhythm; their poetry is always greater than its temporal boundaries, than the words or punctuation – the sounds, the images, the words, the rhythm come together into a gushing wind.

There are poems so sublime, word so perfectly crafted to word, word just as surely laid to image that reading the poem is transcendent. A magic silence is entered into. Listen to the opening lines of Gerard Manley Hopkins' "The Windhover to Christ Our Lord:"

"I caught this morning morning's minion, kingdom of daylight's

dauphin, dapple-dawn-drawn Falcon, in his riding

Of the rolling level underneath him steady air, and striding ..."

There are poems less sublime, but still so carefully crafted and intoxicated with language, you forgive them their sins. Few poets have been more addicted to excess than Algernon Charles Swinburne. Here are lines from his poem "A Forsaken Garden":

"Here death may deal not again for ever;

Here change may come not till all change end.

From the graves they have made they shall rise up never,

Who have left nought living to ravage and rend.

Earth, stones, and thorns of the wild ground growing ..."

Be forewarned; I spent a summer reading Robert Service and have always loved Edgar Allen Poe's poetry. For months, at night, I stood by the banks of the Peace River in Florida as a friend recited the most outlandish word addict of the past century, Vachel Lindsay. The opening of Lindsay's "General William Booth Enters Into Heaven":

"[To be sung to the tune of The Blood of the Lamb with indicated instrument]

[Bass drum beaten loudly.]

"Booth led boldly with his big bass drum –

(Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?)

The Saints smiled gravely and they said: 'He's come.'

(Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?)

Walking lepers followed, rank on rank, Lurching bravoos from the ditches dank,

Drabs from the alleyways and drug fiends pale –

Minds still passion-ridden, soul-powers frail: –

Vermin-eaten saints with mouldy breath, Unwashed legions with the ways of Death –

(Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?)

[Banjos.]"

Recently, I've begun to realize there is a generation of letter-to-the-editor writers who similarly prize language over meaning, sound over content. There is a true emotional punch in their work; it clearly is both political and personal. It's disguised in Rush Limbaugh-imitating, excessively pompous verbiage, but when we strip it bare, we find a new American poetry, not of the wimpy left but the true and hard right.

Proud and ideologically fearless, these poets honor the past. No political correctness or common decency is allowed to stand in the way of aesthetic: holier-than-thee-and-thou, poetic preaching. These are like psalms, holy visions offered down from the gods – not just the mere words of men (and women).

Just read them. There is no denying the sheer love of words, the disregard for petty content, the refusal to submit to any of the kind of carefully reasoned arguments that simply reiterate dominant ideology.

Perhaps unfairly and unwisely, I have stripped the protective prose armor away from these pure, poetic incantations. In a way, it's like drawing a mustache on the Mona Lisa; even though I am a passionate, inarticulate fan of this genius, I have besmirched the work in making its poetic ambitions so obvious.

(First in a series)

TRUE AMERICAN VISIONS: RIGHT WING POETRY, OUR READERS WRITE:

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You and your fellow travelers
Advocating ideologies
Any rational person would find
Mortally reprehensible –
Neoleftist utopians, moral-Relativist Marxists,
suicidal pacifist, chic anarchists
Mired in the fever swamp of pathological
naïveté.

History has proven
These deviant neoleftist ideologies as geno-
cidal.
This moral credulity
Aiding and abetting
The enemies of civilization

Islamist fascism!

All responsible Americans
Must Accept
We are in a world war!

Islamist fascists!

Humanity is in mortal danger of
An 11th-century existence:
Sharia law establishing worldwide a world,
Women, homosexuals, free-thinkers, and all
non-Muslims
Subject to immediate execution or enslavement.

Islamist tyranny!

A glaring reality – America
The lone nation capable of annihilating
Genocidal threat.
Neoleftist moral blindness infects
Virulent anti-American propagandist
Malevolent neoleftist influence
Never allowed

Hate!

Comrades decry neoleftism
Join the fight
For the free world

A warm welcome to the struggle.

continued on p.8

Oops! In last week's "2006 State Races," the boundaries of State Board of Education District 10 were described as going from Austin "east to College Station." Actually, District 10 only goes east to Burleson County, just shy of College Station.

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“Send Money: A Christmas Poem of Tolerance”

This bunch that
Supports killing the unborn
Encourages homosexuality
Nearly ruptured a gut pulling the cord on Terri Schiavo
Want the Ten Commandments and anything pertaining to God
Removed and out of sight,

Speak their stupid opinions publicly
Without consideration of how it affects our troops
Encourage the enemy
Accuse our troops of committing terrorist acts
Claim the war is not winnable
Are somehow concerned about
Civil liberties’ endangerment over ordered intercepts
Of suspected terrorists

This bunch
Have all gathered around their “Holiday Tree”
Asking for donations for
Their party.
Anyone that believes they came from monkeys
Has the IQ of a dingbat
Join with them and
Send money!

[Technique: Poems are taken from real letters to the Chronicle. Words and sentences are deleted. The order is not changed. No words or sentences are added. In the first poem a word had its tense changed. In the second a line from the beginning was repeated later in the poem.]

POSTMARKS

Guilty of Being Successful

Dear Editor,

Your article appears to find our NPR station guilty of, well, guilty of being successful [“KUT by the Numbers,” News, Jan. 20]. Those of us that listen to NPR and public radio nationwide can attest that few other stations combine the popular and informative NPR news programs in the morning and evening drive-times with an in-station news department as well as real local, eclectic music programs, hosted by genuine long-term Austin on-air personalities. In addition, KUT features excellent drive-time traffic reports and also wonderful features like the Austin Music Minute. David Brown already has begun to produce features on Texas music. He came from Los Angeles, with a nationwide reputation.

What other Austin radio broadcasting outlet carried the entire Supreme Court hearings of Judge Roberts and, currently, Judge Alito?

As a regular listener and supporter of both KUT and KMFA, plus a fan of the local music programming and promotion on KGSR, I think we need to encourage, not denigrate, local broadcasters.

If you want to get on a high horse, then let’s talk about the inexorable trend of commercial broadcast consolidation nationwide, so that one can be in any part of the country and the stations sound more or less the same. Satellite radio is growing fast based on unique content as a direct result of this mass radio conglomeration courtesy of the FCC rulings that now allow giant corporations to own large numbers of stations, plus other media, in a particular market. Hello, Big Brother calling?

My wife and I have long contributed modest financial support to KUT, and following my retirement, I now serve on the Board of Directors of Austin public radio and KUT. However, I write this letter as a private citi-

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR must be signed with full name and include daytime phone number, full address, or e-mail address. Letters should be no longer than 300 words. We reserve the right to edit all submissions. Letters may not be edited, added to, or changed by sender once we receive them.

zen. If KUT is guilty of anything, it is the willingness not to be satisfied with the status quo, to add local news, to seek excellence. Your article seems to blame the community for liking and supporting this. The fact that KUT has a larger share of the audience in its listening area than practically any other public broadcasting station in the country should be a source of great pride, celebration, and recognition, and not some dark conspiracy theory that the station is forsaking somehow a vow of poverty and failing to run on a shoestring!

James George

Has KUT Lost Its Grasp?

Dear Editor,

Thank you for the recent articles on KUT-FM [“KUT by the Numbers,” News, Jan. 20]. I have been a member of KUT for years now and listen almost exclusively to them. I feel that my reasons for listening are the same as most members, the lack of commercial interruptions and the world-class local programming. But for the past few years I have been growing increasingly unhappy with the direction the station seems to be going in. Your articles have helped to illuminate the situation.

Like most members, I contribute during the annual pledge drives. Sometimes I do this once a year, sometimes twice. But the additional requests seem to keep coming. Last week I started receiving calls at my house from telemarketers asking for additional funding. These obviously weren’t the friendly volunteers that man the lines during fund drives, but bored marketers making cold calls from a list. I sent an e-mail complaining about the practice and received a response from Sylvia Carson stating that the income from telemarketing was vitally necessary.

I truly feel that KUT has lost its grasp on what made it the station that it has been: the close relationship between station and community. I will be watching closely to see if this trend continues, and weighing my decision on whether to continue sponsoring such a decline.

Thank you,
Jim Vest

continued on p.10



THEATRE ARTISTS - GAME DESIGNERS - INDUSTRIAL DESIGNERS:

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Where Does Money Go at KUT?

Dear Editor,

I am appalled by the article about KUT’s highly questionable fundraising (or more to the point, spending) as delineated in your article [“KUT by the Numbers,” Music, Jan. 20]. I was confused and anxious when the schedule of the incomparable Larry Monroe, who provides some of the greatest radio programming in America, was shifted around to accommodate nationally syndicated “roots” music shows whose value to Austin, with its own internationally renowned native music, was quite questionable. Larry is still on the air, thank goodness, but is he being paid what he deserves for his inestimable contribution to our culture and our city? Likewise, the brilliant Paul Ray, host and source of so much of Austin’s soul which gave KUT its creative identity in the first place? I don’t know, but I would lay odds they’re getting woefully less than these pikers.

We would, truly, be culturally lost without Paul Ray and Larry Monroe, not to mention Tom Pittman; Dave Obermann; Ed Miller; yes, John Aielli (whom as you say, it’s doubtful gets paid any large portion of the more than \$100,000 “budgeted” for his show); and all the other great KUT announcers (who also do their own programming – and thank God they do).

So my question is why does KUT need five (by my count) “executives” earning \$50,000 to \$100,000 a year, and why isn’t that money going to the people who have well-earned and deserve it? I’ve never asked Larry, but I strongly doubt he is paid anywhere that much and he’s on-air more hours than many of us work our day jobs, and contributes more to KUT, and to Austin, than anybody mentioned in your article.

I’ve written checks faithfully as often as I could for as long as I can remember, to keep

people like Larry Monroe on the air. And that’s certainly the impression I’ve been given in every pledge drive and request for funds – pay up or lose Larry.

Heck, I’m ready to file a lawsuit myself. I thought my checks were going to (real, Austin) deejay salaries and equipment and stuff – not some station executive’s husband who wants to have a show. Boy, am I steamed. Thanks for a great article.

Regards,
Mandy Mercier

.....

Unexpectedly Quoted

Dear Editor,

It is disconcerting to find in print an item about five words spoken at the only private party I have hosted in two decades [“Naked City,” News, Jan. 20].

In mid-December, we mailed invitations “to celebrate life” on Jan. 11 at Zilker Clubhouse. The invitation mentioned dinner by Threadgill’s, Floyd Domino at the keyboard, no presents but your presence, and did not mention birthday.

One of the invited guests was the incomparable Sarah Eckhardt, graduate of UT’s law school and LBJ School, and candidate for county commissioner, Precinct 2. Sarah attended the 5:30pm party briefly and departed for her young son’s birthday.

About midway in the party, I was surprised to see an uninvited Karen Sonleitner, wearing her campaign name badge, mingling with the guests (who wore our preprinted name tags). As a supporter of Eckhardt’s candidacy, I spent several minutes wondering what to do since my guests quite naturally would assume that Sonleitner also was invited.

After Sonleitner finally departed, I concluded there was no alternative but to tell my guests (at this nonpolitical event) that I was supporting

Eckhardt and that Sonleitner had crashed my party. The next morning, I received a note of apology from Sonleitner and was quite ready to close the books on the awkward happening.

A week later, however, I received my *In Fact Weekly* and was saddened to find words about the unfortunate event in print. In retrospect, I can only say it does seem curious that no one else in Austin thought the gathering was open to the public.

If ever again I get the urge to host a party, I’ll probably try to rent the convention center and pay for open invitation ads in the local press!

Shudde Fath

.....

Say No to Privatization!

Dear Editor,

In recent months, the *Chronicle* has extensively covered the Convergys/HHSC fiasco [“Naked City,” News, Dec. 16]. Well, the state is at it again. Right now the Department of Information Resources is poised to offer a contract to outsource many state services to a private vendor, including unemployment services (www.dir.state.tx.us/datacenter/index.htm). While the perception of many is that state employees are just feeding off the government tit, I can assure you that everyone at the Texas Workforce Commission works damned hard to ensure Texas citizens get their unemployment benefits on time, or ensure that someone looking for a job finds one. It is a job that I myself take very seriously. So I implore everyone to speak out against this consolidation plan. Contact the governor, your state representative, and your senator. Say no to privatization! Do not turn over state services to a corporation whose only concern is raw profit, not the welfare of the people of Texas!

Eric Harwell
Pflugerville

Great Article on Thin Lizzy!

Dear Editor,

Quite simply, Raoul Hernandez has written the single best article that the *Chronicle* has published: “Renegade” [Music, Jan. 20]. I was bitten by the Thin Lizzy bug at 15; *Black Rose* tour; Beaumont, Texas. I will never forget Phil Lynott shining the spotlight reflection from his pick-guard into our faces, grinning that grin and asking, “You out there?” Well Phil, I still am and lord knows rock & roll still wishes you were. Thank you, Raoul!

Jeff Martin

.....


Views Oversimplified

Dear Editor,

While I agree with the tenor of Louis’ comments about the agenda of those with much to gain from this culture of greed and disdain, I disagree that this is the majority opinion held by most conservative Christians [“Page Two,” Jan. 20]. I think you’ll find that over the next several months hundreds of thousands if not millions of them will begin to desert the movement, or demand in louder and louder voices that it change to reflect their perception of what it is and how it’s gone so terribly wrong. The defining issue will be the Jack Abramoff scandal. Ralph Reed is already feeling the heat. Watch his race for lieutenant governor of Georgia. So many conservative Christians, like most Americans, wanted a quick fix to all of our problems. They saw their salvation personified in people like Reed. Now that it is painfully obvious that Reed and his wife and all who are within his select circle are about nothing but money, the wall will start to fall. And won’t that be nice?


Steve Hellyard Swartz
Schenectady, N.Y.

continued on p.12



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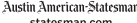
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Either Lacks the Knowledge Or ...

Dear Editor,

Mr. Douglas Watkins' letter stating that all recharge from Williamson Creek discharges to Cold Springs is wrong ["Postmarks," Jan. 20]. He misread and misinterpreted the dye studies he quotes. The dye studies have been done during extreme low-flow conditions. For each study, the dye was injected to a single fault, cave, or hole. The entire recharge zone for the creeks has not yet been tested. Additionally, three dye studies have been done in the Williamson Creek basin – for two of the studies, the dye discharged to Barton Springs rather than Cold Springs.

Furthermore, water-volume budgets conducted for Barton Springs and the aquifer prove that the recharge contribution from Barton and Williamson creeks to Cold Springs is limited to be only a small part of the total recharge from these two creeks (pubs.er.usgs.gov/pubs/wri/wri864036).

Additionally, the aquifer is not “extensively” developed, as Watkins states. The impervious cover in the recharge zone and contributing zone is only about 3.3% but is projected to be 14.9% in the future (almost five times higher than present), as referenced by the city of Austin report at www.cityofaustin.org/watershed/downloads/bart_inv4.2_.pdf.

Even with the minimal development, Barton Springs water quality has degraded substantially as shown in table 2 of the city of Austin report at www.cityofaustin.org/watershed/downloads/barton03_wq_update.pdf. For example, organic carbon has increased 180%.

I have studied the hydrology and water quality of Barton Springs and the aquifer for many years and authored about 25 reports on

THIS MODERN WORLD



the subject. Mr. Watkins claims he is amazed at the lack of scientific logic applied to this issue, but maybe he either lacks the knowledge or represents somebody who wants to ignore the truth.

Raymond Slade Jr.
Certified professional hydrologist

by TOM TOMORROW

Must Work Together

Dear Editor,

The National Association of Manufacturers is not “blaming workers” for the broadening skills gap in America, as Jim Hightower claims in “The NAM’s Mess” [“The Hightower Report,” Jan. 13].

The 2005 Skills Gap Report by the NAM, the Manufacturing Institute, and Deloitte Consulting cited by Mr. Hightower issues a call to arms for manufacturers to invest more in skills training (roughly 3% of payroll) if they want to stay ahead in today's rapidly changing economy.

But even dramatically higher investments by manufacturers won't overcome the poor quality of our K-12 educational system. Modern manufacturing requires employees with advanced technical skills and a solid background in math, science, and communications that many of America's schools are not providing.

Another difficult hurdle is our industry's negative image, which stems from a fundamental misunderstanding about the high-paying, challenging jobs in today's cutting-edge manufacturing. Manufacturers must do a better job telling their story to potential workers if they want to have the high-performance workforce that three out of four tell us is the most important driver of future business success.

We need a thoughtful national debate that rises above finger-pointing if this country is to avoid a human capital crisis when the baby boomers retire with no generation of skilled workers in the pipeline to replace them.

Jerry Jasinski
President
The Manufacturing Institute
(the research and education arm of the NAM)
Washington, D.C.

[Jim Hightower responds: Thanks, Jerry, for noting that NAM's report is “a call” for manufacturers to invest more in skills training. But are they answering the call? And, while you criticize “the poor quality of our K-12 educational system,” corporate members of NAM routinely demand that local school districts exempt them from school taxes when they move into an area. Sometimes it takes a little finger-pointing to get not merely a debate, but action.]

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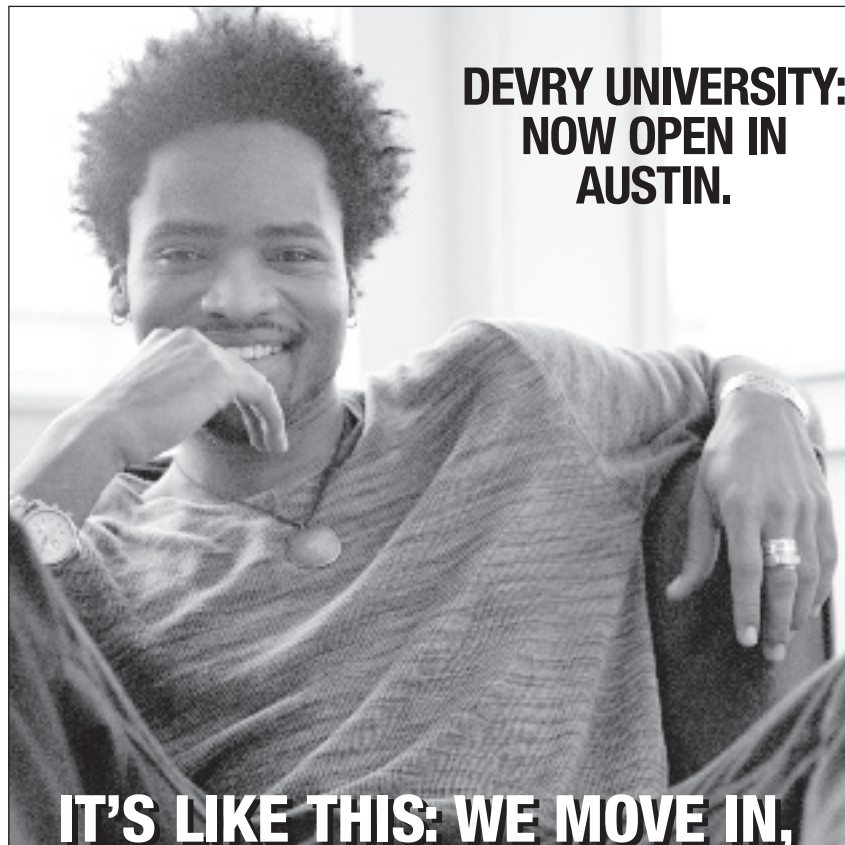
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JOHN ANDERSON

Parents turned out in force at a public hearing Monday to oppose a plan by AISD Superintendent Pat Forgione (facing crowd) to "repurpose" Becker Elementary as an early education center for 3- and 4-year-olds and redistribute current K-5 students to nearby Dawson and Travis Heights. Forgione says the plan is necessary because of underenrollment at the South Austin school. The plan also would repurpose Oak Springs Elementary and Porter Middle School later. For more, see p.24.

POINT AUSTIN

Town Lake 'Chinatown'?

Moriarty lawsuit opens a can of worms on contracting, conflicts, and a good ol' boy network of city contractors

BY MICHAEL KING

It's likely we will not get to the bottom of the Moriarty Affair for several months, if not a couple of years. The latter is Bill Moriarty's estimate, as he appears to be settling in for a long legal siege against the city and (as of this writing) three of its biggest names: City Manager Toby Futrell, Deputy City Manager Joe Canales, and Council Member Brewster McCracken. In his pending lawsuit, to which the city has not yet formally responded, the former program manager of the Austin Clean Water Program says he was illegally forced from his position – a consulting contract job with the city's ACWP primary contractor Earth Tech – by a cabal of competing local contractors who pressured the city to find something, anything, to allow the city to get rid of him, and the managers resigned or eagerly capitulated, insisting Earth Tech dismiss him. Due to Futrell and Canales' interference in his contractual relationship, the lawsuit charges, "Moriarty has sustained actual damages in excess of \$1.3 million."

For its part, the city has charged – making its initial public case in the *Statesman*, a rather clumsy strategic move – that Moriarty fell victim to his own conflict of interest, most specifically the fact that his companion, Diane Hyatt, had received ACWP consultant contracts to design and maintain the sewer reconstruction program's interactive Web site. Moriarty argues that he had nothing to do with negotiating or awarding Hyatt's contract – the city's reps on the contracts do that – and that in any case, that his private relationship with Hyatt began after her contractual relationship with the city. He does acknowledge that he did not inform the city of his personal relationship with Hyatt, but says that isn't required "under any city rules or ethical requirements that I know of."

Futrell says that's not good enough. "Even by his own dates [which the city disputes]," Futrell told me, "Moriarty was in a relationship with Hyatt" while she was in the process of applying for and receiving a city contract "over which he had tremendous influence." Whatever the contractual details, Futrell said, it would appear to the public that "under the program that he manages, he was in a position to influence the hiring of the person that he was living with."

"To me," the city manager continued, "that raises a judgment issue, that raises a conflict of interest issue, and that raises a realm of influence issue. ... These are high-level principles with a whole host of ramifications." Faced with that apparent situation, says Futrell, the city had no choice but to go to Earth Tech and request that it replace Moriarty.

continued on p.16



Ben Bentzin scores against USC

UT ATHLETICS DEPT.

HEADLINES

- ▶ The **Donna Howard** and **Ben Bentzin** campaigns for the state **House District 48 run-off** began to gather steam, as Lt. Gov. Dewhurst (filling in for Gov. Perry, who's currently in Iraq) announced that the run-off will be held **Feb. 14**. See p.18.
- ▶ Community pressure is growing for the **Capital Metro** board to intervene directly in the labor negotiations between contractor StarTran and the Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1091; voluntary citizen mediators have offered their services, thus far without success. As of press time, the union was expected to announce a strike to begin Monday, Jan. 30.
- ▶ **City Council** meets today (Thursday) with a fairly limited agenda, as Mayor Will Wynn and several other city officials began the week in Washington, D.C. at the meeting of the U.S. Conference of Mayors. Mayor Wynn used the occasion to barnstorm for plug-in hybrid vehicles; more mundane matters, like what to do about the proposed \$614.8 million bond election, will wait for next week. See "Beside the Point," p.16.
- ▶ A federal trial began Monday in the **Sophia King** case, in which King's family is suing the city of Austin on the grounds that an Austin police officer's failure to act in response to the mentally ill woman's erratic and threatening behavior in June 2002 eventually resulted in her shooting death at the hands of an APD officer.
- ▶ The likely **Democratic contenders for governor** dropped to three last week (or stayed at zero, if you prefer), as Fort Worth middle school administrator Felix Alvarado was dropped from the primary ballot when his filing check bounced. That leaves former Congressmen Chris Bell and Bob Gammage plus novice candidate and Houston convenience-store manager Rashad Jafer.

NAKED CITY

- ▶ At press time, now 19-year-old **Marcus McTear** – who was convicted in June 2003 of stabbing to death his former girlfriend, 15-year-old **Ortralla Mosley**, in a hallway at Reagan High School – was back in juvenile court for a hearing to determine whether he will be sent to the adult Texas Department of Criminal Justice to serve out the remainder of his 40-year sentence. McTear has spent the past three years in the Texas Youth Commission's Giddings State School, where psychologists testified Jan. 24 that he has yet to show any remorse for his crime. It will be up to District Judge Jeanne Meurer to decide whether McTear should be given another chance in TYC or be sent to an adult prison. – *Jordan Smith*
- ▶ Mayor Will Wynn was making national news Tuesday in Washington D.C. with the announcement that Austin's campaign to urge the accelerated production of **plug-in hybrid vehicles** is going nationwide. The initiative hopes that city and individual enthusiasm, such as Austin's 600 "soft" fleet-vehicle orders and 11,000 citizen petitions, will entice automakers to mass produce the ultra-efficient vehicles, which use new, larger batteries that charge from a regular wall outlet to achieve a range of 25-35 miles of all-electric driving, as well as fuel economy in excess of 80 mpg. A number of cities are already on board, with the goal of enlisting the 50 largest U.S. cities. The plug-ins are said to be a near-term solution to improve air quality, reduce foreign-oil dependence, and even tap unused electric utility capacity by charging the vehicles overnight, when few people demand energy. The Travis Co. Green Party endorsed the plan, but with reservations. "Austin is the most congested mid-sized city in the country. We've got to move beyond roads and cars." They called for an end to the current "road building frenzy," and for more public transportation options as well as improved support for bicycling and walking. For more info, see www.pluginpartners.org – *Daniel Mottola*
- ▶ AISD has recommended that the Board of Trustees adopt a **"compromise" calendar** to begin the next school year Aug. 15. For months, a committee of AISD parents and staff has been wrestling with the merits of two proposed calendars: one that starts Aug. 15 and one that starts Aug. 22. The main argument in favor of an early start is that it gives students and schools a head start on preparing for standardized

continued on p.17

Quote of the WEEK

"I'm Vince Young, and it's halftime."

– **Ben Bentzin**, Republican candidate for state House District 48, predicting a turnaround in the run-off from his poor showing in last week's special election.

Dark Shadows

Futrell's latest explanation at least has the virtue of abstract simplicity – no literal charges of wrongdoing, just the unseemly appearance of a conflict of interest. The trouble is that polite narrative is just very zenith of the iceberg that is the Moriarty Affair. Futrell herself admits that the city came across the Moriarty/Hyatt relationship only after it was engaged in an extensive “independent” investigation (conducted by outside attorney Connie Cornell) of continuing (but completely distinct) charges that Moriarty was somehow engaged in contractual self-dealing, or bribery, or favoritism, or a whole host of muddy charges thrown at him over several years by some local contractors. Cornell's was at least the third official investigation of Moriarty. Previously, contractors had taken similar charges to APD, and to the Travis Co. District Attorney, where both agencies reviewed and dismissed them as unfounded. (At the third go-round, did anybody at least consider the possibility of slander?)

And despite Futrell's current assurances, in his lawsuit Moriarty says the city's insinuations of criminal wrongdoing have continued. As recently as Monday, City Attorney David Smith bristled when I recalled that the DA had found “absolutely nothing,” suggesting darkly that it is his understanding that prosecutors are “still looking into it.” Responded Assistant DA Patty Robertson, for the record, “We've reviewed the allegations and we will not be pursuing criminal charges.” If that's not good enough for Smith, maybe he should talk to his boss. On Wednesday, Futrell's staff sent me an e-mail pointing again to her initial public statement after she declared the Cornell investigation complete, and pronounced, “First and foremost it did not find any evidence of criminal wrongdoing on the part of the Project Management Firm – Earth Tech, its project manager [Moriarty], and any City Staff.”

Moriarty's lawsuit contends, accurately, “if the City had credible evidence that Moriarty had committed a crime, Futrell would be obligated to pursue criminal charges.” In other words, put up or shut up. Maybe it's Futrell who should talk to Smith, and give a good yank to his choke-chain.

Much More to Come

As I said, this is only the tip of a very large iceberg, and I'm running out of this week's space. McCracken dragged himself directly into the fight because he stupidly (or craftily) leaked

David Smith's summary memo of the Cornell investigation to the *Statesman*, later defending his action as a service to “the taxpayers.” Perhaps on the same grounds, he could inquire why the city is refusing to release the raw fruits of that investigation, the Cornell interviews, paid for by the very same taxpayers (twice – in-house and out-). If Moriarty is to lose his career over that investigation, should he not get a chance to respond to secret, unfiltered allegations, at least some of them from sources known to bear their subject ill will?

On the other hand, McCracken's leak may be understandable, since the Smith memo reads like a clumsy combination of tendentious summation of unknown evidence and press release. Amid dark shadowings of other, entirely unrelated scandals, and conflict-of-interest charges against Moriarty, Smith dragged in another third party over an apparent conflict of interest that turned out, after very small inquiry, to be only that – apparent. (Smith is now trying to extricate the city from that separate snafu without actually admitting to any “mistake.”)

For his part, Moriarty has responded, for good and ill, as a man with nothing left to lose. In addition to the literal contract dispute, his lawsuit blasts the city at great length (and sometimes recklessly) for alleged negligence of its sewage infrastructure (for which the ACWP is the supposed remedy), especially on Town Lake. Last week, he began distributing a DVD reiterating his charge that the city's neglect could lead to a health emergency like the one that killed more than 100 people in Milwaukee in 1995 – of which he told me, “If my situation does nothing else than force the city to fix that serious problem, which it ignored and kept hidden for years, then that's fine by me.”

Asked if she thought the Moriarty matter might have been handled in a way that didn't produce such an explosion, Futrell said, “It was not our idea to have an explosion. It's being made to be an explosion – but that is not our intent.” I don't doubt that the city was hoping that Bill Moriarty would simply fold up his tent quietly and go elsewhere, much to the satisfaction of the local big shots – among them Bruce Todd, David Armbrust, Karen Friese, and others – who'd made it abundantly clear they couldn't abide him. That he isn't doing so is testimony either to his integrity, his stubbornness, his sheer hardheadedness, or some combination of all three. Maybe they should have given him that council hearing he requested, after all. ■

BESIDE THE POINT

NO BONDS (YET), BUT GOODBYE TOOTERTAT

At our first, cursory glance at today's (Thursday) council agenda, something felt amiss. Where was that Prize Pig of the Fair, the **Bond Election Advisory Committee's** presentation of its much labored-over bond package? Had the council, in their (anticipated) quest to reapportion the recommendations to make room for **State Highway 130**, pulled the pork apart so zealously as to destroy the package? Despite the BEAC advertising a Jan. 26 delivery, fears of council chambers transubstantiating into an abattoir seemed, yes, overstated. But what happened to the package?

Council agenda manager Sara Hartley reassured us that no, the package is not accumulating dust alongside dog-eared Intel blueprints and Leslie for Mayor placards in some sepia-bathed bureaucratic purgatory, but has indeed been pushed from the week's agenda. Furthermore, shaking off winter's stop-start hibernation, council will meet uninterrupted for the next four Thursdays – so if the bonds don't appear next week (as now expected), they will undoubtedly arise the week after.

Not coincidentally, **Mayor Will Wynn** is in D.C. until Friday, no doubt partying hearty at the U.S. Conference of Mayors. As COM energy chair, Wynn announced Tuesday an initiative calling on carmakers to boost production of **plug-in hybrid vehicles**. Flanking him were Council Member Jennifer Kim, City Manager Toby Futrell, and Austin Energy Manager Juan Garza (we thought those cheap JetBlue tickets only went to NYC and Boston). Our thoughts circle back hazily to the *Simpsons* episode featuring Ed Begley Jr. driving a vehicle powered only by his own inflated sense of self-esteem. In Wynn's case, it would be the incumbent's campaign cash pumping the pistons. In his first **campaign finance report**, Wynn shows over \$40,000 in contributions, nicely supplemented by a 10-grand loan to himself. The challenger, Mayor Pro Tem and Cap Metro board member **Danny Thomas** – out of the hospital just in time for the likely bus strike (see p.20) – has thus far raised only \$300.

So whatinhell is on the agenda this week? A grip of **social service grants** are clustered in the Health and Human Services items (10-13), with \$177,622 for child and maternity health care, grants for Caritas, Meals on Wheels, and SafePlace, funding for AISD tutoring, and youth training and counseling.

Other dollars are directed less altruistically: **attorneys' fees**. Item 15 sends up to \$150,000 to Hughes & Luce for its help in expediting the sale of Block 21, immediately behind City Hall. Item 16 sends up to an additional \$50,000 to Thompson & Knight for its work with the Computer Sciences Corp. (and its two west Downtown monoliths) and the oh-so-chic Second Street Retail Project. The city's most interesting legal investment might be Item 14, where we kick down \$23,500 more in legal fees (bringing the total to \$83,000) in the case of **Travis Co., et. al. v. Rick Perry, et. al.**, the case going to bat for Austin in the aftermath of Texas' DeLay-masterminded Republican re-redistricting. The gang also takes the case up in closed session.

Also of interest is Item 45, executing a contract with Diana McIver & Associates to study **affordable housing creation** along Capital Metro's forthcoming Austin-Leander **commuter rail line**. Facts would be welcome, for while affordable housing battled with open space for the title of cause célèbre in the bond package, there were as many definitions of the concept as there were millions of dollars funding it. It could also mean the end to affordable housing struggles in the city proper – now we can ensure commuting Lantana employees won't have to worry about housing prices! (Pardon our insolence – no doubt the study will be useful – but we can't help but recall that the rail line has been tailored by Capital Metro to attract those very suburban voters who reflexively balk at housing and transportation initiatives in the urban core.)

Lastly, while it will assuredly pass silently on the consent agenda, we feel duty-bound to describe the imminent demise of poor **Tootertat Drive** (Item 8). Seems the homely, unique, but vaguely flatulent cognomen was simply too declassé for the builders of a neighboring upscale home development, the Reserve at Slaughter Creek. In the cause of “neighborhood enhancement” – i.e., yuppie marketing campaigns – they've applied to rechristen the South Austin street “Boyd's Way.” Fare thee well, Tootertat, we hardly knew ye. – *Wells Dunbar*

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tests. A group of parents, however, has been extremely vocal in opposing the early-start calendar, in part because it cuts off summer, and in part because winter break begins in mid-December, releasing the kiddos to rampage underfoot for 10 days before Christmas. Hence the compromise plan approved by a 10-8 vote in the calendar committee: The year would begin Aug. 15, but winter break would begin Dec. 22. Nevertheless, parent Michele Worrell, who has been leading the late-start charge, told the board that the halfway solution wasn't acceptable. The trustees will vote on the issue Feb. 6, so there's still time to share your thoughts at www.austinsd.org — Rachel Proctor May

► If you want to make a historic preservationist in Austin mad these days, talk about the demolition of the house at 1200 Lorraine under a remodeling permit. Time and again in recent meetings of the Historic Preservation Task Force, the demolition of the 1920s Tudor house in the **Westline National Historic District** has been cited as the best example of why the city needs to tighten up its permit process on potentially historic structures. Needless to say, owners Kevin O'Hanlon and Priscilla Lozano, both local attorneys but ignorant of the preservation code, were a bit shell-shocked by a round with the Historic Landmark Commission this week. O'Hanlon pulled the house down because of foundation and water-damage problems. That drew the full ire of both the Old West Austin Neighborhood Association and the Landmark Commission. In fact, the city is taking O'Hanlon and Lozano to municipal court next month for violating their permit. Meanwhile, the couple must secure the blessing of the HLC for new construction on the site, which was put off this week until city staff approves the construction plans and the existing variances are clarified. The commission is unlikely to be any happier about the couple's construction plans next month. — Kimberly Reeves

► The final chapter in the **Miller-Maverick House** controversy was written this week at the Historic Landmark and Planning commissions. Last fall, City Council approved the transfer of development rights on the Miller-Maverick House — an extra 20 feet in height — to another nearby property owned by the same owner. That property, at 21st and Rio Grande, will become the high-rise 21 Rio. Both properties are located in the high-density University Neighborhood Overlay district. In a restrictive covenant with the Heritage Society, the owner of the Miller-Maverick House agreed to limit additional development on that property to a small art gallery or studio no taller than 40 feet. While council approved the deal last October, the Landmark and Planning commissions still had to sign off on the negotiated deal, which both did this week. — K.R.

► Lakeway City Council is considering approval Monday of zoning changes permitting the American Retirement Center's Village of the Hills to erect a **five-story, 530,000-square-foot retirement home**. Aside from drawing the ire of nearby homeowners, the case is also notable in that Lakeway will have to vote to alter its own zoning code, designed to keep big-box retailers out. — Wells Dunbar

The APD's Critical Incident Negotiation Team took top honors at the 16th **Hostage Negotiation Team Competition** on Jan. 12 in San Marcos. APD's 22-officer CINT beat out 24 teams from across the country to win the annual competition, held at Texas State University during a training seminar. The CINT team works with the department's SWAT unit, to respond to various "critical" situations, including hostage situations and armed and/or suicidal barricaded suspects. In 2005, the team was called to a total of 27 incidents. — J.S.

BEYOND CITY LIMITS

► House Democratic leaders agree on many things, but who should be **the next governor of Texas** isn't one of them. On Monday, Democratic hopeful Bob Gammage picked up the support of House Democratic Caucus Chair Jim Dunnam of Waco. On Tuesday, rival candidate Chris Bell returned serve with the endorsement of Houston Rep. Garnet Coleman, chair of the Legislative Study Group and immediate past chair of the Legislative Black Caucus. Bell had previously secured the backing of Alpine Rep. Pete Gallego, chair of the Mexican-American Legislative Caucus. Meanwhile, a third Democrat in the March 7 primary — Houston retailer Rashad Jafer — aims to collect the names of 1 million supporters on his Web site, www.rashadforgovernor.com. Would-be gov contender Felix Alvarado, a Fort Worth educator, was shut out early because his \$3,750 filing fee check to the Texas Democratic Party bounced. — Amy Smith

► During the first meeting of the Senate Select Committee on **Education Reform and Public School Finance** — say that quick three times — Chair Florence Shapiro, R-Plano, pledged a modest agenda for education reform during the special session. Shapiro said she'd prefer, first, to address the issues of the Supreme Court school finance ruling and, second, to talk about a limited number of reform-related issues. Shapiro told the group at its first meeting Tuesday that she wanted to do two or three things and do them well, rather than tackle a long reform agenda. That's in line with the proposals of John Sharp, who was appointed by the governor to head up the Texas Tax Reform Commission. Speaker of the House Tom Craddick, on the other hand, has talked up a number of failed reform measures as real possibilities during the upcoming session. Sen. Royce West, D-Dallas, who spent many a late night in the conference committee, said it would be a mistake to go back to the more contentious issues that clearly had no consensus and would divide the Legislature. Sen. Robert Duncan, R-Lubbock, said the public perceived the Legislature as doing nothing more than sniping and bickering during the last special session, rather than trying to address the real problems facing education. — K.R.

► The Republicans vying for Rep. Terry Keel's seat in **House District 47**, minus Bill Welch, showed a decidedly conservative bent at a candidate forum last

week. Alex Castano, Terry Dill, Rich Phillips, and Dick Reynolds appeared at the Founders' Vision Republican Women's forum. While former Sheriff Keel, who is now running for the Court of Criminal Appeals, was more a law-and-order Republican with a strong "no nonsense" bent, the four candidates who spoke at the meeting were far more interested in showing their credentials as patriotic and godly Christians with plenty of children and, it appeared, an anti-abortion, pro-voucher, pro-prayer-in-schools agenda. This crop of candidates might find another voice in a different setting, but Republican observers note that these candidates appear especially conservative. — K.R.

► The party primaries are expected to be the proving ground for the future of the Legislature this year, and the first endorsements of the **Texas Parent PAC** prove that. The PAC announced the first two of more than 20 endorsements this week, supporting challenger Anette Carlisle and incumbent Delwin Jones. Carlisle, who was nearly kicked off the ballot because of a protest from Texas Republican Party Chair Tina Benkiser that Carlisle's school board position was a "lucrative job," is challenging Rep. David Swinford, a Dumas Republican who chairs the House State Affairs Committee. Jones, a long-time GOP lawmaker out of Lubbock with some moderate votes on his record, has two challengers in his primary. Carolyn Boyle of the Texas Parent PAC says endorsements will continue through March 1 and will focus on both Democrat and Republican as well as challenger and incumbent, specifically looking for those candidates who are well-rounded, viable, and have a commitment to and knowledge of the public education system. — K.R.

► Comptroller and gubernatorial candidate **Carole Keeton Strayhorn** had little good to say about the Texas Residential Construction Commission during a news conference this week. She released a 50-page report that called for abolishing the agency, saying that it lacked enforcement powers to force builders to fix defects in homes and that the mediation process was more one of documenting defects than finding a resolution between homebuilder and homebuyer. In a survey of about 100 homeowners who went through the TRCC dispute-resolution process, at least half thought the process was slow or nonresponsive, and the vast majority were unhappy with the results. In a response the next day, TRCC Executive Director Duane Waddill said the commission took no position on Strayhorn's legislative claims — for instance, those calling for more enforcement authority for the TRCC — but that the agency had increased its customer service staff by 400% in the first quarter of the year, and that the commission recently approved a follow-up program to determine whether the dispute resolution process had been effective. — K.R.

► Rep. Lon Burnam, D-Fort Worth, continues to rally for removing lawmaker-turned-lobbyist **Bill Ceverha** from the board of the Employee Retirement System. Burnam has made at least two visits to chastise the ERS board for failing to investigate what he sees as Ceverha's conflicts of interest. On Monday, Burnam held a news conference to present a memo he says proves that Ceverha was still lobbying the ERS board after Speaker of the House Tom Craddick appointed him in 2003. Ceverha has claimed he severed all ties with businesses interested in lobbying the board when he took his seat on the board. It's probably no coincidence that Democrats are lobbying so hard these days against Ceverha, given that Ceverha was the one-time treasurer of Texans for a Republican Majority and Craddick was the alleged beneficiary of his largesse during his first speaker's race. Burnam, by the way, was the one member of the House who voted against Craddick during his first run for speaker, leading to a list of rather Siberia-like committee assignments. — K.R.

HAPPENINGS

► Two cool **hurricane happenings** are scheduled this weekend. Photo and oral history exhibit "Surviving Katrina: Sharing Our Stories" has the first of two openings Saturday at the University Hills Library, 4721 Loyola, 2-4pm. (The second is Feb. 15 at the Carver Library, 6-8pm.) The display, excerpts from the retellings of six New Orleanians of their experiences fleeing the hurricane and winding up in Austin, is a collaboration between the Austin History Center and local oral history project Alive in Truth. Cake, coffee, and jazz will abound. On Sunday, a folk/blues/gospel benefit concert for Guatemalans affected by Hurricane Stan begins at 6:30pm at 290 West Bar & Grill, 12013 Hwy. 290 W. Ruthie Foster will headline the Dripping Springs Presbyterian Church-sponsored concert. Both events are free, but donations are encouraged at Sunday's concert; proceeds will go toward an effort to rebuild 33 of the hardest hit communities in Guatemala, where, according to the Red Cross, "Hurricane Stan caused 669 deaths, directly affected more than 470,000 other lives, damaged or destroyed almost 35,000 homes and partially or completely wiped out the sanitation and water systems of entire villages." — Cheryl Smith

► In a move that's been endorsed by such prominent lefty thinkers as Lewis Lapham, Howard Zinn, Jonathan Kozol, and, um, Wavy Gravy, the grassroots organization World Can't Wait has created a campaign to **Drive Out the Bush Regime**. Spurred by the outrageous behavior of the current administration — the illegal war in Iraq, the justification of torture, and the influence of Christian fundamentalists on public policy, to name a few — WCW has planned demonstrations across the nation to coincide with George W. Bush's upcoming State of the Union address. Beginning at 7pm here in Austin, there will be a rally at Austin City Hall, with speakers and live music from Alejandro Escovedo, the Texcentrics, and others. At 8pm, when the Prez begins his speech, folks are asked to "Bring the Noise" and "drown out the lies" with bells, whistles, and various noisemakers. For more info, see www.worldcantwait.net. — Diana Welch

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Democrats Unite Behind Howard for District 48

Whatever reasons the Democrats had for not uniting behind **Donna Howard** before last week's special election, disappeared almost as quickly as the Republicans' confidence in **Ben Bentzin**'s ability to pull off an outright victory in **House District 48**. Now, GOP party activists are divided on whether Bentzin can turn around his lackluster performance against Howard in next month's run-off election.

That contest will take place **Feb. 14** – Valentine's Day – with Howard entering the election with a 12-point lead over Bentzin. Early voting starts Feb. 6. Reversing bipartisan predictions that Bentzin would dominate in the Jan. 17 election returns, Howard came within 73 votes of an out-and-out victory over her opponent, who limped into the run-off with less than 38% of the vote in a four-way race.

Bentzin, a former Dell exec, had outraised and outspent his opponents by wide margins, dropping a few hundred grand on TV ads and slick mailers. But the advertising blitz failed to generate enthusiasm among voters in this moderate swing district, which includes West Austin and Northwest Travis Co. In fact, out of 13,555 ballots counted last week, 60% went Democratic, favoring either Howard or distant third-place finisher **Kathy Rider** (who endorsed Howard within a couple of hours after the polls closed).

(Interesting side note: There were 13,555 ballots *counted*, but there were 13,621 ballots *cast* – a rather significant, at least in this race, difference of 66 ballots unaccounted for. Travis Co. Clerk Dana DeBeauvoir said they were “undervotes” – ballots improperly cast, possibly without selecting any candidate, due to voter error or confusion.)

“Ben entered the race as the odds-odd favorite,” said lobbyist and Bentzin supporter **Bill Miller**. (Efforts to reach Bentzin through his campaign manager and political consultant were unsuccessful.) “So what went wrong?” That's the constant refrain of Republican operatives. On the other side, **Chris Elliott**, chairman of the Travis Co. Democratic Party, has a ready answer. “I don't think the message could have been any clearer,” he said. “This election was geared to give the Republicans the greatest advantage, from the timing of the election, the money that was available, and the fact that they had a single candidate. ... We took their best shot, and look at the result.” Democrats say that Bentzin bore too close a resemblance to former HD 48 Rep. **Todd Baxter**, who resigned unexpectedly late last year and is now lobbying for the cable industry. Baxter's voting record was a more accurate reflection of the Republican Party leadership than of the voters who live in the district, Elliott said.

Meanwhile, GOP activists are split on how to position Bentzin in the run-off election. Some favor dumping more money into his campaign while others – including the business lobby – are questioning whether they would get a return on their investment. Still others believe a safer route would be to concede the run-off and spend the rest of the year building a case against Howard in the general election in November.

Travis Co. Republican Party Chair **Alan Sager** is proceeding with his game face firmly intact. “Ben will win because he is the better candidate and he is not trying to hoodwink the public into thinking he is something that he is not,” he said. “Donna Howard was thrown out of office by the people who know her best.” Sager was referring to Howard's unsuccessful re-election run for the Eanes school board in the late Nineties. Her loss followed the controversy over building a second high school in the district, which Howard and the majority of the school board supported but voters soundly rejected. Howard went on to lose her EISD seat, along with two GOP incumbents (including Jerry Hughes, husband of George W. Bush confidante Karen Hughes). Howard insists that her mainstream views are in line with her district, and she says her Republican supporters – including current Eanes school board trustee **Clint Sayers** – bear her out on this score.

Sager is unconvinced, pointing to Howard's endorsement from labor groups as proof of tax-and-spend liberal leanings. “She represents the unions who have made a mess of our public schools,” he said. “They do to our schools what the New Orleans levee board does to the levees in New Orleans, take a lot of money and produce no results.”

Howard's performance last week has galvanized Democrats here and across the state. On Monday morning, **Andy Brown**, who had planned to oppose Howard in the March primary election, gathered with other Democratic notables on the steps of the Capitol to publicly endorse Howard in both the run-off and the primary. While he still holds political aspirations of his own, Brown says those plans are on hold, at least temporarily. “My main focus is to help Donna get elected,” he said. He is now a co-chair on Howard's campaign and, more significantly, one of her largest contributors; he's transferring \$10,000 from his war chest to Howard's, with the blessing of his major donors. After the press conference, two veteran Senate Democrats – **Rodney Ellis** of Houston and **Eddie Lucio** of Brownsville – sidled up to Howard and offered some private words of encouragement.



Aspiring District 48 legislator Donna Howard receives a hug from former rival Andy Brown in front of the Capitol Monday morning. Democrats rallied behind Howard after she qualified for a run-off against Republican Ben Bentzin.

Last Friday, **Wes Benedict**, who chairs the Travis Co. Libertarian Party, filed a complaint against Bentzin's fundraising committee – **Friends of Ben Bentzin** – claiming it failed to disclose more than \$250,000 in campaign reports due Jan. 9. (Howard filed a related complaint with the state Ethics Commission late Tuesday.) Bentzin's filings with the commission that day do not include the money he raised and spent between Oct. 21 and Dec. 31; a separate report covering that period was not filed until the day of the election. Bentzin's contributions, including last-minute donations, total more than \$353,000. Conservative San Antonio millionaire **James Leininger**, who typically gives to candidates he can count on to support state-funded private school vouchers, gave Bentzin \$20,000, according to reports.

Additionally, Bentzin's filings show an outstanding \$417,974 loan left over from his unsuccessful senate bid in 2002. The transfer of the loan to his new campaign suggests that Bentzin hopes to pay off his old debt with contributions to this race. The maneuver is entirely legal, says campaign finance expert **Fred Lewis**. But he said it raises some ethical questions about the unlimited amounts of money that candidates can loan themselves in hopes of having the debt paid off by contributors. “Today's contributors probably don't know that they may be giving to pay off a prior campaign debt,” Lewis said. One way to avoid potential conflicts is for candidates, those who can afford it, to donate the money as a gift to their campaigns, Lewis said.

– Amy Smith

BIG BEN GOES BUST: Let's go to the tape!

Well, \$40 a vote, or however much Ben Bentzin's spent so far, doesn't go as far as it used to. Especially when you don't spend it on effective get-out-the-vote efforts, as Big Ben certainly did not. The tale of the tape:

TURNOUT

Total turnout:	13.7%
In boxes with Howard over 50%:	16.1%
In boxes won by Howard:	15.6%
In boxes won by Bentzin:	9.6%
In boxes with Democratic vote (Rider+Howard) over 50%:	14.7%

Everyone got that? Boxes where Howard did well = *above-average turnout*. Boxes where Bentzin did well = *below-average turnout*. Any questions? Did you give money to Big Ben? Do you want a refund?

But wait, you say! Turnout was so low overall that these differences may be products of random chance, not of a breakdown of the, uh, fearsome Travis County GOP machine. Well, through the miracle of fancy math (we'll spare you the details), even when compared to the relative high/low turnout distribution in November 2004 (the Todd Baxter/Kelly White throwdown), Howard and Rider's combined GOTV slightly overperformed, and Bentzin's went the other way.

OVERALL RESULTS:

Donna Howard:	49.5%
Ben Bentzin:	37.8%
Kathy Rider:	10.2%
Ben Easton:	2.3%



GOP candidate Ben Bentzin limps into the District 48 run-off after garnering only 38% of the vote in a district designed to elect a Republican.

THE RUNNERS-UP:

Howard's % in Rider's best boxes:	51.8%	Bentzin's % in Easton's best boxes:	44.7%
Howard's % in other boxes:	47.3%	Bentzin's % in other boxes:	33.4%

Yes, Kathy Rider took votes from Howard and Ben Easton from Bentzin, but while this may be theoretically a swing district, it doesn't have that many swing boxes. In the boxes where Rider did better than her 10.2% overall total, Howard won an outright majority – these would be the solid Dem boxes. In boxes where the Libertarian did better than his puny 2.3% overall total, Bentzin did better than average – though, it must be noted, did not win outright.

BEN AND DONNA, TODD AND KELLY:

In boxes won by Kelly White in 2004:	
White: 58.8%	Howard: 55.2%
Baxter: 41.2%	Bentzin: 30.5%

In boxes won by Todd Baxter in 2004:	
White: 40.3%	Howard: 43.2%
Baxter: 59.7%	Bentzin: 45.8%

In other words, Howard did pretty well compared to Kelly White (Howard and Rider combined, of course, outperformed White handily), and Bentzin did a lot worse than Todd Baxter. The map shows the geographic extent of Bentzin's choke-itude. Big Ben only outperformed Baxter in one box (218, in the far northeast corner of the district). He managed to keep his losses to a minimum in Northwest Hills, Tarrytown, and Lake Travis, but in Howard's stomping grounds in the Eanes ISD, and in Jonestown and Lago Vista, Bentzin seems to have actively repelled Baxter's 2004 voters – or otherwise fallen victim to their buyers' remorse regarding the GOP

– Mike Clark-Madison

District 48

So who lives in District 48? Looking at these demographic numbers from the state of Texas and the U.S. Census Bureau, a typical resident is: better educated and wealthier than the average Texan; likely to be more conservative than other Travis Co. residents, but more liberal than other Texans; and, while more likely to have kids in private schools than other Texans, not by much – the overwhelming majority use public schools, no doubt a factor that swayed vote totals both in 2004 and in last week's special election in a more Democratic direction than normal.

– Lee Nichols

Demographic Info

	Dist. 48	Texas
% Students in Public School	88.0%	93.1%
College Degree (Age 25+)	58.7%	23.2%
Did Not Finish High School	6.3%	24.3%
Per Capita Income	\$41,573	\$19,617

Annual Household Income		
Under \$10,000	5.2%	10.4%
\$10,000 - \$24,999	11.5%	20.2%
\$25,000 - \$49,999	24.3%	30.0%
\$50,000 or more	59.1%	39.5%

Population Living in Poverty	6.9%	15.4%
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Average Value of Owner-Occupied Home	\$305,952	\$109,639
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POPULATION

Anglo	102,325
Black	4,911
Hispanic	15,988
Other	9,821
Total	132,858

CITIES (Includes all or portions of):

Austin (74% of District 48's population), Cedar Park, Lago Vista, Leander, Jonestown, Rollingwood, West Lake Hills

SCHOOL DISTRICTS # Students

Austin ISD	79,860
Eanes ISD	26,153
Leander ISD	16,855
Lago Vista ISD	6,009
Pflugerville ISD	3,516
Marble Falls ISD	459
Round Rock ISD	6

2004 General Election

District 48 went solidly Republican in the November election, though the State Rep. race was a virtual toss-up.

	District 48	State
State Rep. District 48		
Todd Baxter (R)	50.1%	
Kelly White (D)	49.9%	
President / V.P.		
Bush/Cheney (R)	53.0%	61.5%
Kerry/Edwards (D)	47.0%	38.5%
U.S. Rep. District 10*		
Michael McCaul (R)	76.7%	83.7%
Robert Fritzsche (L)	23.3%	16.3%
U.S. Rep. District 21		
Lamar Smith (R)	59.8%	63.4%
Rhett Smith (D)	40.2%	36.6%
Railroad Commissioner		
Victor Carrillo (R)	55.3%	57.5%
Bob Scarborough (D)	44.7%	42.5%
Supreme Court, Place 9		
Scott Brister (R)	54.5%	59.2%
David Van Os (D)	45.5%	40.8%
Travis Co. Sheriff		
Duane McNeill (R)	52.9%	41.4%
Greg Hamilton (D)	47.1%	58.6%

* No totals available for write-in Democrat Lorenzo Sadun

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CAPITAL METRO STRIKE THREAT LOOMS

Capital Metro's new bus schedule shipped last week. The cover features a sleek, angular detail of HEB's Tech Ridge outpost in North Austin. The image – not to mention the new route servicing it, which begins circulating Dell commuters from the new Tech Ridge Park and Ride on Jan. 29 – represents the transit authority's lofty future goals. Cap Metro's pains to present itself as a smart, relevant company, in tune to the needs of an expanding Austin, are a far cry from the image of mismanagement that plagued the transit authority up to the mid-Nineties. Indeed, the Park and Ride is ripped from the playbook of **Envision Central Texas**, the theoretically progressive umbrella organization devoted to managing growth in the Austin/Central Texas corridor, with a particular attention to mass transit solutions. So it may have come as a surprise when fellow smart growers **Liveable City**, generally one of Cap Metro's most stalwart supporters, presented a resolution to the Capital Metro Board of Directors at its Monday meeting, urging the board to resolve the ongoing labor dispute between its largest contractor, **StarTran**, and **Amalgamated Transit Union 1091**, before the continuing standoff degenerates into an outright strike. Today (Thursday), the union is expected to issue a statement warning of its plans to go out on strike beginning Monday, Jan. 30.

A strike, if it happens, would be the culmination of an extended and exceedingly bitter labor dispute, which began last April. In September, 1091 staged a one-day lightning strike, but this would be different: In addition to giving the public notice, the strike would in theory last indefinitely. Discussing worker resources, 1091 President **Jay Wyatt** noted that StarTran – a nonprofit that officially employs Cap Metro workers, in order to reconcile conflicting state and federal labor laws – ended the automatic union fee deduction (dues checkoff) from employee paychecks back in October, when the union contract formally expired. “We have not been collecting dues since October. The purpose of this is to weaken us.”

Following months of negotiations, and the September strike, StarTran declared negotiations officially at an impasse in December, a designation the union describes as self-fulfilling because of StarTran's unwillingness to make meaningful concessions. The declaration legally allowed StarTran to impose on employees most of its final offer, the centerpiece being a new wage scale paying new employees 20% less than the former starting wages (under which current employees were hired). While health insurance remains free for employees (Cap Metro spokesperson Andrea Lofye told the *Austin American-Statesman* that maintaining those benefits constitutes a management “concession”), coverage for dependents has gone up over 20%. **StarTran president Kent McCulloch** agrees premium costs have risen 25%, but StarTran shoulders proportionately increased costs. Wyatt also said four employees were terminated since the new year, because StarTran made changes to long-term illness absence policy, cutting it from 24 to 12 months. Capital Metro and StarTran disagree;

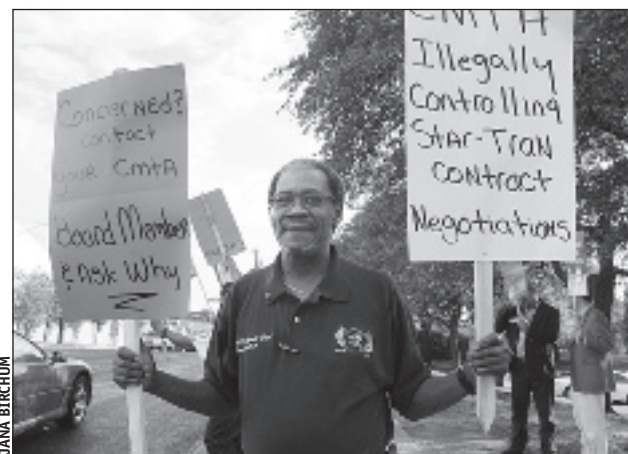
they say employees aren't fired but placed on “inactive status” after 12 months. The workers lose health coverage and other benefits, but are eligible to reapply once they're well. And while StarTran implemented its salary cut for new employees (which the union sees as creating two classes of employees), current workers still haven't received a raise, much less retroactively. Said Wyatt bluntly, “We're in a serious box.”

A potential new avenue in contract negotiations unfolded last week, when an ad hoc community advisory committee came forward, offering to broker or mediate a mutually agreeable contract. Committee chair and local businessman **Carl Tepper** sees Capital Metro's cost-saving goals as reasonable, but believes the two groups can work together to save money. Tepper formerly chaired the Capital Metro's customer satisfaction advisory committee, a group that fielded rider complaints, and says he worked closely with the board. Last week, however, Tepper received “a very polite ‘no thanks’” from McCulloch, who wrote “it is incumbent on the Union to offer alternatives that will bridge the gap between ... the parties,” and encourages the committee to work solely with 1091 to create those alternatives. “Our motives are pure,” says Tepper. “We think they should consider [our offer] again,” and added that if Capital Metro fears the makeup of the citizens committee is too union-friendly, that can be negotiated too. “We don't want to see a strike, to see the agency and the union come under negative public scrutiny. ... There is a common conscience,” says Tepper, one that wants both fiscal responsibility and a fair shake “for the guy driving the bus.” Lofye said “to bring in outside mediation at this point would delay the process.”

Despite Cap Metro's rejection, Wyatt believes the mediation effort is “not a dead issue,” especially since negotiations brokered by **Mike McMillion**, from the **Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service**, have thus far been fruitless. McMillion, brought aboard by StarTran's declaration of an impasse, has been “playing the company's side,” says Wyatt, and demanding additional union concessions. In its Monday meeting, after a lengthy stint in executive session, the Cap Met board said StarTran was ready to negotiate again – with the assistance of McMillion. Wyatt described that alternative as an exercise in “repeating your insanity.”

Monday's meeting suggests that public pressure is increasing on the board to intervene directly. “This is very painful for us, honestly ... we're very strong supporters of Capital Metro and public transportation necessary for the city,” said Liveable City board member **Mark Yznaga**, but, he added, “It's important that public entities support their employees.” Yznaga believes board Chair **Lee Walker** has the power to intervene in negotiations by reining in StarTran. “I don't think anyone questions that the board could solve this problem if they wanted to,” Yznaga said.

Louis Malfaro, president of the **Austin Central Labor Council** and a Liveable City board member, was even more blunt. “Capital Metro is behaving like the biggest union-busting group imaginable.” Malfaro said that Liveable City was



Jay Wyatt, president of Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1091

“about fed up with Capital Metro shooting themselves in the foot,” and that he feared the reverberating fallout Capital Metro could expect from a strike. “The board is coming to understand that the managers of StarTran and Cap Metro have made strategic blunders ... [and] there is some indication that the broader community is waking up.” At a recent meeting organized by several local religious leaders, Malfaro noted, “a half-dozen ministers walked up one side of [Cap Metro president and CEO] **Fred Gilliam** and down the other” over StarTran's unilateral imposition of new and diminished contract terms.

“Lee Walker has more power,” says Wyatt; “if four people stand up [a board majority], and say ‘This has got to stop,’ Walker could bring the standoff to an end.” Wyatt remains surprised at the board's silence, especially from City Council Members **Raul Alvarez** and **Danny Thomas**. Alvarez, leaving his council post in May, has little to lose, while Thomas could use the opportunity to spark union support for his mayoral candidacy. (Ironically, Thomas' son makes his living as a bus operator.) The *Chronicle* unsuccessfully tried contacting Walker for this story; buttonholed before Monday's board meeting and asked if he felt Local 1091 was getting a fair deal under StarTran's new rules, he said, “I'm not going to touch that one right now.” The meeting would end dramatically – Walker exited abruptly after unsuccessfully trying to adjourn, while other board members preferred to stay and consider whether the board should intervene.

Last week, Walker appeared on KLRU's *Austin Now*, where he trumpeted Cap Metro's ambitious suburban commuter rail plan. The transit authority has big things planned as part of its All Systems Go initiative, but the drawn-out labor negotiations, teetering on the edge of a strike, are beginning to dismay mass transit's most fundamental supporters – who would be called on to beat the drums for any future rail vote.

For the union, whose members increasingly believe the path toward rail is being paved with their own economic surrender, things appear more immediately dire. “It is a do-or-die situation,” Wyatt said.


– Wells Dunbar

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THE MAD PARENT PAC FUNDING REPORT

The **Texas Parent PAC**, a fledgling committee borne out of frustration with the Legislature's failures on school finance, has reported raising nearly \$56,000 from a cross-section of Texans since the advocacy group kicked off with a vengeance six months ago.

"We're right on target," said Parent PAC treasurer **Staley Gray** of the group's \$250,000 fundraising goal for the 2006 election cycle. "For a brand new PAC, I'd say that's a pretty good first quarter." Gray credited the group's leaders, including **Carolyn Boyle, Ellen Jones, Beverly Barrow, and Dinah Miller**, with drumming up support from parents and educators. "They really beat the ground all over the state," she said. In the process, they also recruited a field of legislative candidates – several of them current or former school board members – who will challenge a number of state House incumbents who hold dismal records on education.

According to the group's **campaign finance reports**, filed last week with the Texas Ethics Commission, the Parent PAC raised \$55,813 between July 15 and Dec. 31. They spent \$4,728 and ended the year with \$47,271 in the bank. Contributions ranged from \$10 to \$20,000 – the latter from **Charles Butt**, chairman and CEO of **HEB**, the San Antonio-based grocery store giant.

Rep. **Bob Griggs**, R-North Richland Hills, also kicked in \$1,000 to the cause. A former school superintendent, Griggs rankled House leaders last spring with his declaration that **House Bill 2** – the school bill opposed by educators – was equivalent to "junk food" because it failed to provide funding beyond the initial "sugar rush." Griggs is not seeking re-election this year.

Other noteworthy donors included former Lt. Gov. **Bill Ratliff** (\$2,500) and former state Education Commissioner **Mike Moses** (\$500). By and large, though, the PAC's 243 contributors are regular folks who hail from all corners of the state – from a Waco homemaker, to a Sweetwater accountant, a Jasper educator, a Tyler veterinarian, and a Lubbock cotton merchant. Many donors made online contributions through the PAC's Web site (www.txparentpac.com), and often included personal notes with their donations. "Here's one from a fellow in Kilgore," Gray said, reading from her computer files. "He said, 'I'm so glad that someone is taking the effort to beat [House Speaker] **Tom Craddick** and [Lt Gov.] **David Dewhurst**.'" And from a resident in Plains, Gray read the following: "Our senator [**Robert Duncan**, R-Lubbock] gave the Legislature a 'B' for this session. We believe he is grading on a severe curve."

– Amy Smith

HURRICANE HOUSING LIMBO

Although only a select few Austinites knew it at the time, the butts of thousands of hurricane evacuees in the area were saved – albeit temporarily – from an uncertain housing fate Friday. That's when the **Federal Emergency Management Agency** notified nervous state and local governments across the country that FEMA will continue reimbursing them for **Hurricanes Katrina and Rita** evacuees' rent and utility bills beyond the end of February. In Austin, that includes about 2,000 families of Katrina evacuees, all of whom the city has placed in rental properties throughout town.

FEMA originally set a March 1 cutoff deadline for the temporary emergency assistance. Now, however, a memo from **David Garratt**, FEMA's acting director of recovery, instructs governments "not to terminate any lease agreement that FEMA is presently reimbursing" because the agency will continue to pay the bills of these evacuees until they've been approved for "direct" public assistance from the federal government. The city has a nearly \$39-million line of credit through FEMA on which it draws to pay evacuees' rent and utilities. Austin has spent about \$4.4 million of this money so far, said Deputy Chief Financial Officer Leslie Bowder.

FEMA will handle the cases of evacuees who are unable to get continued rent and utility assistance from the agency on an individual basis, spokeswoman **Barbara Ellis** said. Garratt's memo says that governments and tenants will receive 30 days' notice before any lease is terminated. If FEMA rejects an evacuee's application,



JANA BIRCHUM

Lisa Stampley and son Hakeem are a couple of the thousands of Katrina evacuees the city placed in rental properties throughout town, and whose rent and utilities are, for now, covered by FEMA.

through." Ellis did not know if FEMA has decided if people in the midst of the appeal process will be included in the extension.

Evacuees can apply for individual public assistance by going to www.fema.gov or calling 800/621-FEMA. (For those with speech or hearing impairments, call TTY 800/462-7585.) Godwin, a Katrina evacuee herself, suggested handling all FEMA business in writing "because you have confirmation that you sent certain information on a certain day." FEMA's mailing address, in this case, is FEMA Individuals and Households Program, National Processing Service Center, PO Box 10055, Hyattsville, MD 20782-7055.

– Cheryl Smith

HOMELESS TANGLED IN NET OF STOLEN PROPERTY STING

According to an **Austin Police Department** press statement released Jan. 20, a four-day sting operation (code-named **Operation Out of the Box**) downtown and in West Campus netted police more than a dozen suspects charged with "felony arrest by appropriation" and a handful of others who were arrested on drug-related charges. The central Austin areas targeted by police "have been experiencing an increase in burglary of vehicles, businesses and residences," the press release explained, and, "[i]n most circumstances, it appears the stolen items are being traded for narcotics or being pawned to obtain money." All but one of the individuals arrested, APD noted, have prior criminal records for a host of charges, including armed robbery, sexual assault, and injury to a child.

Still, news of the arrests hasn't gone over well with everyone, including **Richard Troxell**, president of advocacy group **House the Homeless**. Troxell argues that the sting wasn't about cleaning the streets of criminals, but rather an attempt to rid the streets of the homeless. At least seven of the arrest affidavits filed during the sting note that the operation was conducted downtown in an

"area with a significant homeless operation," and that "through past contacts," police know that many of the arrestees "routinely traffic in stolen property." Accordingly, several of the affidavits explain, an undercover officer posed as a "bicycle thief" looking to fence a nearly \$1,800 bike for money or drugs. In one case, a man offered a single joint in exchange for the bike; in another, a man offered to trade a day planner, a jacket, and a pair of sunglasses; in two other cases, two different men each allegedly offered the undercover cop \$2 for the bike. All four men – three of whom gave the downtown **Salvation Army** as their home address – were arrested and charged with felony theft, punishable by up to two years in jail.

"Here you have the poorest of the poor being preyed upon by police," Troxell said. "It's beyond pathetic." On top of that, if convicted of the felony charges, the men would face a 10-year ban from eligibility for Austin public housing, he said. "It's unconscionable."

APD spokeswoman Toni Chovanetz denies that the sting was designed to target homeless people. Rather, the officers targeted peo-

ple "that we know are in the area to do bad things," she said. The officers "looked for people that we know," based on past surveillance, are dealing in drugs and stolen goods in an effort to get them off the street. "There are people that prey on the homeless and there are homeless people that prey on other homeless people – it's a conglomerate of bad news," Chovanetz said. As such, the goal is simply to "move people out of the area that bring illegal activity into the area." Homeless or not, offering to trade or buy stolen property is illegal, she said.

The undercover officers repeatedly told the suspects that the bike was "stolen" property before the suspects offered to trade for or buy the bike, and they agreed to the deal knowing that they were being "offered up something that was ... stolen," Chovanetz said. That doesn't assuage Troxell, however, who equates offering an expensive bike to a person with no resources to someone enticing a hungry person with a juicy steak. "It's absolutely entrapment," he said, "and House the Homeless will continue to pursue this until [this kind of sting] stops."

– Jordan Smith



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PUBLIC AND TRUSTEES BLAST AISD ‘REPURPOSING’ PLAN

What do the quotations “Absolutely flabbergasted that no dialogue was established,” “Planning was not done right,” and, “Giving lip service about valuing the community” have in common? No, they’re not the latest commentary from HuffingtonPost.com about the war in Iraq. They’re what critics had to say at Monday’s AISD board meeting about Superintendent **Pat Forgione’s plan** to “repurpose” three schools and a professional development academy into early childhood centers and two new “concept” high schools.

Under Forgione’s plan, the underutilized **Becker Elementary** would this fall become a center for 3- and 4-year-olds; elementary students would be redistributed to nearby Dawson and Travis Heights. The repurposing of **Oak Springs Elementary** and **Porter Middle School** would come the following year. While a dozen AISD schools are operating below 70% capacity, Becker, at just 41%, was targeted because of its low student ratio, proximity to other similarly populated schools, and what the district sees as slim chances for growth within the next five years.

Becker neighbors, who see **Bouldin Creek** a-hop-pin’ with strollers, beg to differ. Some 250 parents turned out for an emotional forum on the campus last week, and a couple dozen showed up at Monday’s meeting to reiterate their dismay over AISD’s failure to seek feedback before developing the plan. “Two minutes at a board meeting does not substitute for an active participation in this decision,” said **Lorie Barzano**, co-chair of the Becker Campus Advisory Council and parent of a third-grader.

Forgione defended his strategy by inviting **Mary Jane Gomez** from Houston ISD to speak about their successes in implementing four early childhood centers. Gomez said the centers were wildly popular, with parents driving in from all over town to drop their toddlers off at the brand-new centers. “Build it, and they will come,” she said. As trustee **Mark Williams** pointed out, however, the HISD centers were opened under vastly different parameters: HISD built new buildings with bond money rather than repurposing old ones, they filled the centers with students from a 2,000-student pre-K waiting list, and they offered open enrollment to students across town. Still, the basic argument for dedicated early childhood centers remained: Pre-K teachers could better focus on preparing their low-income charges than they can in elementary schools, where the emphasis tends to settle on older students who have entered the cycle of annual TAKS testing.

All that sounded dandy to the trustees, who praised most heartily the concept of early childhood centers. They were significantly less enthusiastic, however, about how Forgione intended to create them – on a warp-speed repurposing schedule – and the way the plan seemed to have emerged Athena-like from Forgione’s skull and leapt jauntily onto the pages of the *Statesman* without anyone bothering to ask the community for input. **Rudy Montoya** echoed an earlier speaker’s view that Becker’s proposed transformation “does feel very fast,” **John Fitzpatrick** commented on how “markedly absent” the planning commission’s dealings with the affected schools has been up to this point, while **Cheryl Bradley** took the colorful metaphor route: “Right now I feel like the mortician preparing these people for the burial of a community,” she said. Despite such concerns, the trustees’ support for the early childhood centers, and a general consensus that the pattern of Central Austin underenrollment is financially unsustainable, suggests that the ongoing debate will be about when and how – not whether – schools will be repurposed.

The next public forums will be at **Porter Middle School** and **Oak Springs Elementary** on Jan. 31 and Feb. 1, respectively.

– Frank Rivera

STRATUS BUSTED FOR RUNOFF POLLUTION AT FUTURE AMD SITE

Pollution of the **Barton Springs watershed** has already occurred due to development on the **Lantana Tract**, even before **Advanced Micro Devices** has broken ground on its controversial proposed 860,000-square-foot office, according to the **Save Our Springs Alliance** and the **Save Barton Creek Association**. The city of Austin’s **Watershed Protection Division** spokeswoman Lynne Lightsey said Environmental Inspection staff issued a Notice of Non-Compliance/Ordinance Violation to **Stratus Properties** for inadequate erosion and sedimentation controls on the Rialto Boulevard extension project – located off Southwest Parkway, leading directly into Lantana – based on complaints filed last Sunday by activist **Stefan Wray**. “AMD hasn’t even started construction and already there is damage,” Wray said in a letter to the city. SOS’ **Colin Clark** said, “AMD should walk away from these polluters and find a site outside the Barton Springs watershed.”

On Saturday, a tour organized by SOS and former Austin environmental board Chair **Tim Jones** focused on heavy sediment deposits beginning in a drainage culvert down the hill from the Rialto Boulevard project. The sediment extended about 150 yards into the now-dry bed of Sycamore Creek, on land owned by Stratus, within the **Edwards Aquifer** contributing zone. The creek flows toward the aquifer’s recharge zone and Barton Creek. Jones explained that added impervious cover, like the road, “increases the velocity of runoff transported into the Aquifer,” not only carrying silt and mud, contributing to the increasing number of clouding episodes at Barton Springs, but also scouring grease and pesticides along the way.

“Stratus’ position is that the erosion and sedimentation controls have been absolutely properly designed and maintained,” and that this situation is “being used to indicate a problem that is at best misleading,” said Stratus spokesman **Steve Drenner**. “If you look up and down Southwest Parkway, you’ll find culverts that are in the same condition.” He added that the sediment cited by SOS is from other places, had accumulated over time, and has nothing to do with construction activities.

Watershed Protection Environmental Compliance Specialist **Eric Kaufman** said the sediment in other culverts along Southwest Parkway was “not exactly the same situation” as what he saw at Rialto, where on Friday he witnessed silt fences with brown stains extending over their tops, indicating they had been breached, as well as a fine brown/orange sediment not present elsewhere. Kaufman said he and other inspectors had come to a general agreement with Stratus that water containing mud went over the top of the silt fencing, even though it’s hard to determine the source of all the sediment.

But does the occurrence of an erosion control breach serious enough to warrant a city code violation and an ongoing investigation – regardless of its source and especially if similar conditions are present all along Southwest Parkway – indicate that

PRESERVATION POLITICS PROGRESS?

The **Historic Preservation Task Force**, after four months of work, is ready to present to council its efforts on the creation and passage of local historic districts. Chair **Betty Baker**, however, would like to see the emphasis shifted a little less toward the prevention of tear-downs and a little more toward preserving Austin’s history.

Austin’s **inner-city neighborhoods** have tried just about every tool in the zoning toolbox to nix “**superduplexes**” in single-family neighborhoods, including a recent, but somewhat odd, run to rewrite the city’s water-quality ordinance. Using the historic preservation ordinance to protest the tear-downs of homes that are neither architecturally outstanding nor locally historic has been one tactic. That, and the cost of historic exemptions, led to a recent rewrite of the 30-year-old historic preservation ordinance by an independent task force kept at arm’s length from the actual **Historic Landmark Commission**. It wasn’t long after that work was completed, however, before that task force was reconvened to discuss **local historic districts**. The districts, which would be created with the consent of a majority of local property owners, would give neighborhoods a type of deed restriction ability to designate architectural control standards and maintain desirable planning elements like setbacks.



STEFAN WRAY

Members of the Save Our Springs Alliance and Save Barton Creek Association allege that this runoff at the future AMD site is just a harbinger of pollution to come.

increased development in the area is a slippery slope? City Senior Environmental Scientist **David Johns** said the construction phase of any project is when the likelihood of sedimentation being released is the greatest. “Accidental spills can always be prevented. But do accidents happen? Yes.” In preventing pollution events similar to the one near Rialto, he said, “the best technology we have to date is the **SOS Ordinance**.” But thanks to 1999’s **SB 1704** legislation, the Lantana tract is exempt from the landmark ordinance. “Erosion and sedimentation from construction is extremely hard to control,” said **Nancy McClintock**, assistant director of the city’s Watershed Protection and Development Review department. “We worry about it for projects everywhere and in particular anywhere in the Barton Springs Zone, which is particularly susceptible.” She said workers are removing the sedimentation where it is thickest and that barriers such as silt fences and berms are being installed in Sycamore Creek so that additional runoff material can be collected later. Kaufman said the city’s environmental board will review the results of the site investigation’s at its next meeting.

The 10 or so onlookers at Lantana Saturday were wondering aloud whether the preconstruction runoff violation was what AMD spokesman **Travis Bullard** had in mind when he said the project would set “a new standard for sustainable development.” In a phone interview, Bullard said this is “definitely a Stratus thing,” reminding that AMD hasn’t officially started construction. As for the effects of anticipated piggyback development in the area, Bullard said the way AMD plans to build will act as a model for development, especially on Southwest Parkway, because of its sensitivity.

– Daniel Mottola

At this week’s task force meeting, one of the points where the task force split was on how much **documentation** would be required to justify historic districts, which, under the proposed rules, would only require a brief narrative. Baker, the city’s former preservation officer, preferred a more complete review of owner occupancy on each building within the district. Others on the task force, historic preservation specialist **Tere O’Connell** and the Downtown Austin Alliance’s **Charlie Betts**, considered a narrative sufficient, noting that it would provide more context than straight occupancy. Betts, who once sat on the Historic Landmark Commission, told the task force he was worried too much documentation would be burdensome to interested neighborhoods.

Baker told the group that “dumbing down” the documentation requirements would miss the whole point of local historic districts. Without sufficient documentation, the districts are no more than another form of neighborhood conservation combining districts, she said. The final compromise among the members was limited documentation, on a percentage of the contributing buildings, every five years.

The task force will make other recommendations to council, including requiring a **super-majority vote** of the Historic Landmark Commission in landmark designation cases when there is owner opposition. That sets the bar higher for those cases, a desire of the council in the wake of a number of contentious arguments over historic designations.

– Kimberly Reeves

THE HIGHTOWER REPORT

BY JIM HIGHTOWER

BUSH TRIES TO SQUELCH DEMOCRACY

George W. just can't seem to get the hang of this democracy thing. He keeps saying democracy is good – but when it's directed at him, he says it's bad, and he suddenly calls for a dollop of autocracy or even monarchy.

The latest Bush twist came in a speech to the VFW. He started off talking about how good it is for Americans to have a spirited debate this election year about the war in Iraq. There's no need to "fear the debate," he said. Well, yes, freedom of speech, open debate, dissent – these are the essence of democracy, so bring 'em on! But then he regressed: "There is a difference between responsible and irresponsible debate," George warned with an autocratic air, adding that Americans should only tolerate "honest critics."

Oh? And what does his royal Bushness decree "irresponsible" and "dishonest" to be? He did not hesitate to draw the line sharply, declaring that those "who claim that we acted in Iraq because of oil ... or because we misled the American people" are irresponsible and dishonest. Allowing such topics to be debated would bring "comfort to our adversaries," he said.

Holy Richard Nixon – here we go again! America can have a democratic debate as long as it doesn't question the imperial presidency, for to challenge the motivations and rationale of the Bushites' war strategy in Iraq would be unpatriotic and damage the morale of the troops. Bush is trying to control the debate so that his fundamental failures and dishonesty are off limits, branding dissenters as traitors. That's not a debate or democracy – it's autocratic paranoia.

Shamefully, the Bushites even try to hide behind our soldiers, asserting that Americans must not question their leaders "when American troops are risking their lives overseas." Excuse me, but don't the Bushites also claim that our troops are fighting for democracy in Iraq – and doesn't democracy mean that we have every right to question leaders?

THE SCANDAL IS DEEPER THAN ABRAMOFF

Forget building a wall on the Mexican border to keep out immigrants – let's build a wall around Congress and the White House to keep out lobbyists!

As the sickening stench of sleazeball superlobbyist Jack Abramoff wafts across America, the Republican leaders who control Washington are trying several defenses of their corrupt alliance with these corporate influence peddlers. Incredibly, they first claimed that lobbyists' campaign donations don't influence them – "I can't be bought by a few thousand bucks from Abramoff," they typically declared with puffed up indignity.

Bear in mind though, that the Abramoffs bring more than their own money – they collect tens of thousands of dollars from other corporate interests to funnel into a Congress critters' pockets – enough to reach the "for sale" threshold of many money-hungry politicians. Notice, for example, that while George W. himself ostentatiously gave away \$6,000 he had received directly from Abramoff, he quietly held on to more than \$100,000 that Jack had collected for him.

Second, the GOP says, well, the Democrats take corporate money, too. Excuse me, but how, exactly, is this supposed to make the stench any more palatable? Besides, the relative levels of payoffs do matter – and the great bulk of K Street lobbying cash goes to Republicans as a result of their own "pay to play" demands.

The worst rationale, however, is the latest claim that, well, we'll paper over the stain of Abramoff's corruption with a show of "reform," tightening up our rules some, but you can't really change the system, so people shouldn't look deeper than this one bit of excess by one guy.

Hogwash. The scandal is not that rules are being broken, but that the rules themselves are scandalous. People can change the corrupt money system – and they're doing it in states and cities all across America. To learn more, call Public Campaign: 202/293-0222.

Jim Hightower is the bestselling author of Let's Stop Beating Around the Bush, on sale from Viking Press. For more information, visit www.jimhightower.com.

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The New Texas Family Planning

Slashed budgets and anti-abortion politics undermine women's health care

BY JORDAN SMITH

On Jan. 1, Planned Parenthood's East Seventh Street clinic, which has offered family planning and reproductive health services to low-income and uninsured women since the early Seventies, discontinued its popular walk-in service. The clinic also drastically reduced its hours of operation, and local Planned Parenthood officials have had to inform more than 6,000 mostly low-income, uninsured patients that they will no longer be able to obtain family-planning services at the clinic. "Your health is important to us and we are sorry that we cannot take care of you," reads a letter mailed in December to thousands of patients. "This has not been an easy decision for Planned Parenthood and we are deeply sorry that services must be cut this way."

But cut they must be, thanks entirely to two pieces of state legislation. Budget riders tacked onto the Texas Department of State Health Services' appropriation in March 2005 divert, over the biennium, a total of \$25 million in funds previously earmarked for traditional family planning services and distributed among a host of providers – including many (like Planned Parenthood) that specialize in reproductive health services. Instead, that money will first go to fund clinics that either provide reproductive health services *in addition* to a whole host of other medical services, or to nonprofit groups that do not provide any form of reproductive health care – and, on top of that, are neither licensed nor regulated by the state, although they will accept funding from taxpayers.

Specifically, under a rider authored by State Sen. Robert Deuell, R-Greenville, DSHS must use up to \$20 million of family planning funding over the next two years to fund Federally Qualified Health Centers – community clinics required to provide a host of primary care services to indigent clients – before awarding the money to other providers. More egregious is a second rider, authored by State Sen. Tommy Williams, R-The Woodlands, that sets aside another \$5 million in family-planning funds over the biennium for grants to so-called Crisis Pregnancy Centers – unregulated and unlicensed "support" centers that, by and large, offer no medical services, save for over-the-counter variety pregnancy tests – in order to implement a "statewide program for women seeking alternatives to abortion focused on pregnancy support services that promote childbirth."

No Health Case Here

On the surface, the two pieces of legislation are quite different, and at first inspection, Deuell's rider, directing \$20 million toward FQHC facilities – federally authorized centers that aim to serve any and all indigent clients in need of medical services – would appear a pretty good idea. Since FQHCs are designed as a portal for access to a variety of health services – including mental health and dental care – it makes sense in theory, and as an efficient use of funds, to ensure that the clinics offer on-site family-planning services as well, says Todd Gallaher, Deuell's chief of staff. In short, Sen. Deuell saw the rider as a way to

"expand" FQHC services, Gallaher says. In actual fact, however, there are relatively few FQHCs across the state – some 40 clinics statewide, compared to 80 Planned Parenthood clinics and a host of other clinics and hospitals that provide family planning, says Danielle Tierney, public affairs director for Planned Parenthood of Austin. And because the FQHCs have a mandate to provide a wide variety of services to anyone who needs them, many of the clinics are already bursting with patients.

Williams' rider, although it involves only \$5 million in initial funding, is even more disturbing, only in part because of its uncertainty. Which groups will get the funds, what, specifically, will be done with the money, what the taxpayer benefit is, and exactly how that benefit will be measured all remain undetermined. At press time, the Health and Human Services Commission was still "evaluating" the two applicants that have requested the funding. According to Shirley Thompson, president of the Texas Association of Women's Resource Organization, an umbrella group of state CPCs, crisis pregnancy centers offer pregnant women the "support" they need to carry a child to term. Thompson is working with the Round Rock-based CPC known as The Heidi Group, one of the two applicants for the initial grant money. Generally, Thompson said, CPCs direct women to "resources that are avail-

Statewide, an estimated 38,000 low-income women will be displaced as a consequence of Sen. Deuell's shift of funding, and nearly 17,000 women may lose access to reproductive health care because of Sen. Williams' Crisis Pregnancy Center set-aside.

able in the local area" that a woman "may not know exist" – such as sources for utility or rent assistance, or for prenatal medical care. In short, CPCs are nonprofit groups that direct pregnant women to established government and nonprofit aid programs – but which offer little or no direct health care of any kind.

Taken together, the Deuell and Williams set-asides – diverted from a family-planning services budget that, for the 2006-07 budget cycle, was cut by 31.2% – have created a statewide funding crisis not only for Planned Parenthood, but also for other health care providers, including county hospitals and hospital districts. Tierney and other advocates, including Women's Health and Family Planning Association of Texas CEO Peggy Romberg, estimate that statewide, 38,000 low-income women will be displaced as a consequence of Deuell's shift of funding, and according to DSHS, nearly 17,000 women may lose access to reproductive health care as a result of Williams' CPC set-aside. In Austin, the immediate effect of the one-two punch is that the East Seventh Street Planned Parenthood clinic will be able to serve no more than 2,400 patients per year, as opposed to the more than 8,000 last year. And to conserve remaining funds, it will no longer be able to serve anyone over the age of 24.

As poorly as the state of Texas serves women's health already (see "Texas Health Care by the Numbers," right), the cuts and fund shifts will certainly make the situation dramatically worse. The possible long-term consequences of the cuts are deeply troubling to many advocates and to some lawmakers who suspect that the real purpose of the legislation is ideological: an unsubtle attempt to further a hard right agenda, and specifically to undermine Planned Parenthood, considered by doctrinaire



Planned Parenthood clinic, Seventh and Chicon

conservatives as nothing more than an abortion provider. "Truly, what this is about is defunding Planned Parenthood," says Sarah Wheat, executive director of NARAL Pro-Choice Texas. "Deuell and Williams are pawns of the right-to-lifers, and it drives them crazy that Planned Parenthood gets [government] money. They're so fixated on abortion that they can't get over it."

But traditional family planning services, including those provided nationwide by Planned Parenthood, have little to do with abortion – indeed, the law prohibits spending taxpayer funds for abortion services. Instead, for many low-income women, family planning services – which include annual gynecological exams, as well as screenings for breast and cervical cancer, sexually transmitted diseases and HIV, diabetes, hypertension, and anemia – are the most comprehensive medical care they get. In short, the legislation does nothing but reduce access to health care, says Sen. Judith Zaffirini, D-Laredo (one of only three senators who voted in committee against the riders), and as a result, would do far more damage than simply wound Planned Parenthood. "I ... believe strongly that redirecting [money for] family planning services may result in an increased number of births, an increased number of unwanted pregnancies, [or] an increased number of abortions," Zaffirini said. "It may be all three."

FQHCs: Instant Family Planning

There is no dispute that Federally Qualified Health Centers are an important cog in the community health care machine. The FQHC designation was created by federal legislation in 1989 to denote clinics that serve as a single point of access to health care by uninsured and/or indigent clients, and each is required to provide, on-site, three core services: general medicine, mental health services, and dental care. FQHCs are required to provide other medical services as well, like pediatrics and family planning, but may contract with an outside provider, say, for example, a local Planned Parenthood, to provide clients with specialty services. Additionally, FQHCs are bound by a specific form of governance and federal reporting requirements, and must serve a defined geographical area (although they are still required to see any and all patients, even those who are not residents of the service area). In short, part of being an FQHC is dealing with the federal bureaucracy, and that isn't universally appealing to community providers, many of whom – such as county hospitals, which already provide a broad spectrum of services – have been in business far longer than the FQHC program. And many providers, like Planned Parenthood, are not only veterans but also specialists, for whom FQHC designation is not an option. As a result, in many communities, including Austin, FQHC and nonFQHC clinics have worked together to form partnerships, referring clients among clinics in order to provide service that is as seamless as possible.

In large part, this is the reason that the Deuell-created diversion of funds has cut so deeply. According to the rider, DSHS is now required to allocate funds to FQHCs first, before distributing the remaining funds among other providers. Under the new scheme, according to DSHS, 22 FQHCs got just under \$7 million, leaving about \$37 million in the family planning budget for the remaining 74 providers that applied for funds. For all but one of the FQHCs,



Clinic staff (front to back): Leticia Montelongo, Erika Sanchez, Dora Garza, and Vanessa Long

the fiscal year 2006 allocation offered a significant increase in funds, while a majority of the other providers saw significant cuts – including a 40% cut for Austin's Planned Parenthood operations. "This particular set-aside for FQHCs makes no sense," Tierney says. "Yes, many [FQHCs] do family planning, but this is what we specialize in. We have the capability to see more people and to do more with the money," she continued. "[T]hey're taking ... money and setting it aside for a limited number of facilities." Consequently, says Romberg, some clinics will likely close and thousands of low-income women may lose easy access to reproductive health services. "If you close a clinic site and lay off staff with expertise, that's a resource that is just lost," she said. "To me it's a real scary thing."

Gallagher, Deuell's chief of staff, disagrees. "I wouldn't make [the] assumption," he says, that women will be left without health care "just because [some clinics] didn't get the funding." Whatever money was cut from one clinic's budget was moved to an area FQHC, he said, so "the FQHC entity should be able to serve those folks." In all, he says, Deuell believes the FQHC is simply a "better model" to deliver health care to the uninsured – and he denies that the rider was in any way aimed at defunding Planned Parenthood. "I absolutely would not deny that [Deuell] is extremely pro-life in his political views, but I don't think you could draw a line to this as an attack on Planned Parenthood,"

Gallagher said. "If you lost funding and could yell that it was a way to defund Planned Parenthood [you would], instead of acknowledging that this other clinic may be able to serve the population better." (In Austin, the city/county health department clinics are FQHCs. With the Deuell diversion, the Austin Travis Co. Health and Human Services Department got \$674,202 in funds for FY 06, a 253% increase over last year.)

Whether an FQHC actually provides "better" family planning services is up for debate, says Trish Young, CEO of the new Travis Co. Hospital District and former CEO of the Austin/Travis Co. Community Health Centers, Austin's FQHC. "To me, when you don't increase the total pool of funding, you're just moving the money around," Young said. "I don't know – and I wouldn't even go there – to say that the FQHCs are 'better.' Nobody can prove that out." While Planned Parenthood and others may provide more "focused" services, FQHC services "happen to be more broad, so it's not quite an apples-to-apples comparison," she said. "Again, if it doesn't increase [the total amount of] funding for services, it just doesn't change anything." Indeed, there has never been enough family-planning money to cover every Texas woman in need of services – before the Deuell rider, approximately 400,000 women in need received subsidized family-planning care, says Romberg, "and that leaves about 1.5 million other women still in need."

continued on p.28

Texas Health Care by the Numbers

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics, Texas has one of the "worst records" of preventative health care for women in the entire nation. Here are few of the low-lights:

- Texas ranks No. 52 among the states and the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico for the number of women who have health insurance coverage.
- Texas ranks No. 49 among the states for the number of women who have had a mammogram (important in diagnosing breast cancer) in the past two years.
- Texas ranks No. 46 among the states for the number of women who have had a pap smear (crucial for diagnosing cervical cancer) in the past three years.
- Texas ranks No. 5 in the number of teen pregnancies.*
- Texas ranks No. 2 in the number of babies born to teen mothers.*

Sources: August 2004 CDC report based on stats for the years 2000-2002 and *February 2004 data from the Alan Guttmacher Institute

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“Deuell and Williams are pawns of the right-to-lifers, and it drives them crazy that Planned Parenthood gets [any government] money. They’re so fixated on abortion that they can’t get over it.”

– Sarah Wheat,
NARAL Pro-Choice America

Although Gallaher disagrees, many women’s health care advocates and providers say that a string of “unintended” consequences of the funding shift suggests the legislation was not well considered. There were some FQHCs that didn’t even apply for funding because they didn’t want to have to begin offering the services in-house, says Romberg, and several large hospitals also lost significant funding – including Thomason Hospital in El Paso, which had its overall family planning budget slashed by 40% – even though it provides as many, if not more, services than a community FQHC. Moreover, eight of the 22 FQHCs that got funding are first-time fund recipients, like the Georgetown Community Clinic, which is starting its own family planning operations in order to get the additional funds. “So we were made to jump into [family planning],” said Kali Kollmeyer, FQHC program manager for the Georgetown clinic. Although the Georgetown FQHC is, essentially, a winner in Deuell’s rider game, Kollmeyer says the funding shift has been somewhat disruptive – at press time, the clinic hadn’t even begun to systematically get the word out to women that the clinic is now offering family planning. “It seems like it’s kind of rushed – for all parties,” she said. Tierney couldn’t agree more: “That proves what a hasty and political move this was; it was a midsession sneak attack, making family planning more attractive for the FQHCs,” she said. “What kind of system turns you into a [family-planning provider] overnight?”

No Real Alternative but Jesus

Theoretically, in the event that less funding does create a health care gap for low-income women, the state’s network of Crisis Pregnancy Centers, as a consequence of Williams’ corollary set-aside, would be there to take up the slack, with the envisioned “statewide program” for women “seeking alternatives to abortion.” What, exactly, this “program” would look like is unknown – and to hear HHS Commission spokesman Jeff Wool tell it, the state isn’t all that sure either. “Generally speaking,” he said, “there won’t be any provisions that go beyond [the text of the legislation].” At press time, the Commission had not yet awarded the money – \$5 million over the biennium – earmarked by Williams for implementing his vague abortion alternative program, although two groups, The Heidi Group in Round Rock and the Bellville-based Texas Pregnancy Center Network, have applied for the funding.

According to its Web site, The Heidi Group seeks to “make a difference in the lives of women who find themselves in unplanned pregnancies” by offering women a “balanced approach to life, understanding that the unplanned pregnancy is the immediate concern, but that she needs hope offered



JANA BIRCHUM



Sarah Wheat

through a relationship with Christ.” Although a woman may have “practical” needs that can be met through “life skill training,” her “real needs will be met through discipleship.” The group’s founder, Carol Everett, says her organization wants to share the “truth about the choice of life,” and at the CPC, Everett says in a video clip on the Group’s Web site, a woman “will be helped with the choice of life. Both physical life for her baby and eternal life for that woman through Jesus Christ.” The Heidi Group program apparently makes no provision of any kind for women who may not be Christians, or otherwise ripe for proselytizing. But that won’t be an issue if the group gets the CPC set-aside, insists Thompson, who is working with Everett on the group’s funding proposal, since the law forbids spending taxpayer funds for overtly religious ministries. If the group gets the money, Thompson promises, there will be no “overt or covert evangelizing” and no clients will actually be sent to The Heidi Group’s Web site for information.

The other applicant, Texas Pregnancy Center Network, is even more elusive: It has no Web site, and contact information for its three directors is not readily available. (The *Chronicle* was able to find a phone number for Randall Gabrel, one of the three directors listed on incorporation filings with the Secretary of State’s Office, but, at press time, Gabrel had not returned phone calls.) The network didn’t even exist, at least officially, until Aug. 15, 2005, when it filed for nonprofit incorporation status with the SOS. According to a December Associated Press report, the mysterious network is associated with a Pennsylvania-based CPC group, “Real Alternatives.”

Real Alternatives is considerably less preachy than The Heidi Group – in part, perhaps, because overt proselytizing would mean the organization wouldn’t be eligible for the federal monies available for “abortion alternative” programs – including, in Texas, Williams’ \$5 million earmark, which comes out of federal welfare grant money. (Real Alternatives notes on its Web site that its affiliates must agree to eschew religious promotion “while providing contract services to the client.”)

Bible-thumping can take many forms, however, and for the CPCs the second-best alternative to the True Word appears to be the various pamphlets they offer to women seeking services – including pamphlets describing the putative horrors of abortion. “The pamphlets, recently, have not been blatant proselytizing,” Wheat said, “just one step removed.” Among the literature available to CPCs (readily available via an online library) is an “abortion checklist” that includes a “consumer alert” about the “diabolical” late-term abortion procedure, which the literature claims was “engineered for the benefit of what is called the ‘Fetal Harvesting Industry,’” fed by medical professionals who “coerce” pregnant women into having abortions for the benefit of “medical research.”

Whether the CPCs that get funding under the Williams rider would actually be allowed to use this type of information is unknown. In response to a question by Sen. Eliot Shapleigh, D-El Paso, during a March 9 meeting of the Senate Finance Committee, Williams said only that the CPCs would be required to be nonprofit organizations that operate in line with state policies and that “don’t promote, refer [patients to abortion providers], or perform abortions.”

On the other hand, the list of what is *not required* of the CPCs is far longer – and far more disturbing to health advocates. CPCs getting state funding will not be required to have a licensed doc-

DEUELL RIDER: Family Planning Services at Federally Qualified Health Centers

“Out of funds appropriated [for] Family Planning Services, up to \$10,000,000 in each year of the 2006-07 biennium shall be set aside for family planning services provided by [FQHCs].”

“FQHCs funded under this strategy shall assure that recipients receive comprehensive primary and preventive care in addition to the family planning services.”

WILLIAMS RIDER: Alternatives to Abortion

“From funds appropriated [for] Family Planning Services, Department of State Health Services, \$2,500,000 each year of [federal welfare dollars from the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families program] is transferred to the Health and Human Services Commission to be expended as TANF funds through grant or contract. The [HHS Commission] shall expend these funds, consistent with federal and state law, to implement a statewide program for women seeking alternatives to abortion focused on pregnancy support services that promote childbirth.”



tor on staff; are not regulated, subject to inspections by the state health department, or required to meet any state health and safety standards; are not required to keep patient information confidential; and, says Tierney, beyond discussing abstinence, many don’t offer information or referrals for birth control. “Most of the [CPCs] are evangelical and are trying to convert women,” Wheat said. They’re “not regulated, not licensed; so what are we getting for our \$5 million? We used to know exactly what we got for our money,” when it went to traditional family-planning providers. “Now, I have no idea what we’re getting.”

Zero-Sum Arithmetic

In that context, exactly what health care niche the CPCs are supposed to fill remains unclear. Licensed family-planning doctors, in FQHCs or more specialized family planning clinics, like Planned Parenthood’s, offer a host of services and counseling regarding the entire range of options available for every reproductive medical condition – including an unplanned pregnancy. The CPCs, apparently, will provide no such services. So, what, many want to know, is the real intent of Williams’ legislation?

Asked about the legislative intent of the Williams rider, the senator’s aide Jason Baxter provided two prepared statements from Sen. Williams. The first charged that according to national Planned Parenthood’s own figures, “the vast majority of their pregnant client visits are abortion-related. ... Accordingly, the abortion alternatives funding rider created a new niche funding stream for organizations that specialize in providing pre- and post-natal care for women facing unplanned pregnancies who want an option other than abortion.” Williams continued, “Only \$5 million total of Title X funds were reallocated to TANF in order to fund agencies that specialize in assisting women seeking alternatives to abortion. Planned Parenthood and other Title X funded agencies will continue to receive tens of millions in state funds. I would be surprised to learn that pro-choice advocates oppose funding for choices other than abortion.” Unfortunately, despite Williams’ assurances, none of the Crisis Pregnancy Centers applying to be funded by the rider expect to provide “pre- and post-natal care for women facing pregnancies” at all.

Planned Parenthood’s Danielle Tierney responded, “If Sen. Williams wants to talk numbers, let’s talk about the real number of family planning visits at Planned Parenthoods each year. Over two million women [nationally] come to Planned Parenthood for family planning services each year. Planned Parenthood does more in one day to prevent unplanned pregnancy than Tommy Williams will do in his entire legislative career.” Tierney also pointed out that, despite the senator’s implications, none of the state or federal money allocated to Planned Parenthood clinics pays for abortion services, explicitly forbidden by law.

Thompson says the point of funding CPCs is clear: "If a woman is pregnant, then the family planning point is gone," she says. "At this point she needs other help." In other words, to the CPCs and their prospective clients, abortion will not be even a theoretical option for discussion. As an alternative, the CPCs will offer "needs assessment," to determine what social service and/or other nonprofit programs the pregnant woman can tap into, as well as "counseling" services, Thompson says. Of course, the counseling they offer is limited, since under Williams' rider, they're not allowed to do much except touch on the subject of abortion. "We provide information related to abortion issues," Thompson said, "we fully inform our clients about their options, although we don't do referrals." CPC services, she said, are focused on "childbirth, and actually promoting childbirth."

DSHS estimates indicate that nearly 17,000 women could lose access to preventative family-planning health care and reproductive services because of the Williams set-aside. And because the women served by the subsidized family-planning programs are uninsured, low-income women, a lack of access to services raises the concern that the number of unplanned pregnancies – and, perhaps, even the number of abortions performed each year – will in fact rise, a potential consequence that disturbs pro-life Sen. Zaffirini. "If you don't have family planning available, the number of unplanned pregnancies will rise, the number of children born will rise," she said. "And so women without family planning may actually consider abortion, if they are not able to rear their children."

Thompson disagrees. "I don't think that would be the end result. I think that's presumptuous to say that is what would happen," she said. CPCs "are for women who want to continue their pregnancies." But what about poor women who stand to lose their health care? "These are women who just won't get a pap smear" if they don't have easy access, Wheat said. Thompson says she really hasn't given much thought to that consequence. "What women are we talking about?" she asked. "What's wrong with those providers ... [offering] services for free?" Informed that family planning providers already provide free and reduced-fee services, and in fact have relied on state and federal grant money to do so, Thompson was unmoved – and did not think that, perhaps, the CPCs should consider offering their services for free. The CPCs didn't "lobby for the funding," but are simply responding to the new state legislation, she said. In sum, Thompson is unpersuaded that there will be any women that "won't get access" to health care. "We think [funding CPCs is] good."

Don't Call It "Conservative"

Cutting services and funding CPCs may indeed be "good" for the centers that, by definition, rely on unplanned pregnancies to justify and sustain their programs. But that's certainly not a good reason to divert "dear and scarce" family-planning money to the centers, Romberg says. If Williams and Deuell want to fund FQHCs and CPCs, "they should cough up [a separate appropriation] instead of taking women's money," Romberg said.

Williams' office didn't respond to questions about why the senator didn't consider a separate appropriation, but one legislator says that both Williams and Sen. Steve Ogden, R-Bryan (chair of the Senate Finance Committee in which the Deuell and Williams riders were adopted) have made their intentions well-known: "Both Williams and Ogden have said that the purpose is to put Planned Parenthood out of business," said the legislator, who asked not to be named, "and when Ogden became chair of Finance ... he turned [the task] over to Williams." (Ogden did not respond to requests for comment.)

As a state policy, that is just wrongheaded, say Romberg and Wheat, and it's also exponentially expensive. "Unplanned pregnancies in poor families [are] the gift that just keeps on giving," Romberg said. They're costly, not only in terms of health care, but also impact a host of other services on down the line, "the education system, Child Protective Services, foster care, food stamps, the criminal justice system," just to start the list. Indeed, preventative family planning care costs the state about \$160 per woman served, per year for "physical exams, [clinic] visits, [and supplies] for family planning," she points out, compared to

"Redirecting [money for] family planning services may result in an increased number of births, an increased number of unwanted pregnancies, [or] an increased number of abortions. It may be all three." – Sen. Judith Zaffirini

about \$8,500 per woman, for just the "first-year costs" the state pays for carrying unplanned pregnancies to term, as a consequence of what is inevitably described as a "conservative" policy. "It makes no economic sense," Romberg said.

While the initial damage has already been done, advocates warn, the effects are likely to be even worse during fiscal year 2007. Because the provisions of the Deuell rider didn't take effect until Jan. 1, most regularly funded family planning providers, such as Austin's Planned Parenthood, still got four months of funds – from Aug. 31 to Dec. 31, 2005 – based on the old funding formula. As a result, just over \$6.8 million of the \$10 million annual earmark mandated by Deuell's rider was granted to FQHCs, for use during the eight remaining months of the fiscal year. Next year, says Romberg, the full \$10 million will go first to the FQHCs, meaning there will likely be even greater budget shortfalls for other providers. "I'd be happy to let the state fall on its face [with this]," said Romberg, "but the problem with that is that you'll have a lot of victims."

And it isn't likely that sympathetic legislators will be able to roll back the provisions without help from the electorate. "When extremists run government there are extreme consequences. Elections matter," said Shapleigh, who, with Zaffirini and Gonzalo Barrientos of Austin, voted against the riders when they came before the Senate Finance Committee for approval. "So the real question is, will women respond?" ■

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settings throughout the world, revealing the urban and rural architecture of their chosen sites. *The Gates*, their most recent work of art, consisted of billowing saffron fabric panels suspended from 7,503 gates running for twenty-three miles throughout New York's Central Park. Drawing from the collection of the Würth Museum in Künzelsau, Germany, this exhibition is comprised of seventy-five works, including preparatory drawings, collages, and photographs of their many projects, as well as early wrapped objects and a scale model of the Wrapped Reichstag.

AMOA Members can attend the Opening Preview Reception and will have exclusive access to advance tickets to the Christo and Jeanne-Claude lecture at the Paramount on March 30. Join today at www.amoa.org or call 512.495.9224 x245.

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This exhibition is co-presented by Bank of America and Maxwell, Locke & Ritter L.L.P. Support also provided by Jane and Michael Scott, Saleem and Carmen Tawil, and The Friends of Christo and Jeanne-Claude. ▼ The Austin Museum of Art 2006 Exhibition Sponsors are Berman Family Foundation, Green Family Foundation, Chris Mattsson and John McHale, Bettye and Bill Nowlin, Susman, Tisdale and Gayle Architecture and Interior Design, Rosemary Haggard Vaughan Family Foundation, Vinson & Elkins LLP and Texas Commission on the Arts. ▼ 2006 Education Outreach is generously supported by 3M, James Armstrong, Bank of America, Katelena Hernandez Cowles and James Cowles, Institute of Museum and Library Services, Texas Commission on the Arts, donors to the Education Fund, Laura W. Bush Endowment for Education and Outreach and an anonymous donor. ▼ The Austin Museum of Art is funded in part by the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division, The Austin Fine Arts Alliance, Museum Trustees, Members, and Patrons. ▼ The Austin Museum of Art 2006 Promotional Sponsors are News 8 Austin and Time Warner Cable, *The Austin Chronicle*, and KUT Radio 90.5.



the arts

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MOZART'S BIRTHDAY: He's 250 (and doesn't look a day over 239)

Dmitri may have gotten the jump on the whole classical composer mega-birthday celebration thing with the launch of Shostakovich 100 earlier this month, but that doesn't mean Wolfgang Amadeus will be hurting for recognition of his 250th birthday this week. Musicians and fans the world over will be commemorating this significant anniversary of Mozart's birth with a wealth of concerts and special events. In Austin, that means a special lecture on the composer and a performance that will include his "Jeunehomme" piano concerto and beloved "Little Night Music" – both featuring eminent pianist Paul Badura-Skoda.



A. Mozart Fest has a longstanding relationship with the Viennese musician and scholar, and as he's been studying and performing the master's work to worldwide acclaim for a full half-century, who better to discuss the genius of Mozart on this august occasion? Badura-Skoda will deliver his talk on Friday, and as if that weren't enough, he'll be the special guest at the Sunday birthday concert, performing piano concertos nine ("Jeunehomme") and 10 (for two pianos and orchestra, performed with AMF Director Mary Robbins) and conducting *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik* from the keyboard.

Now, that's not all the Mozart madness in town. The Austin Chamber Music Center serves up a heapin' helpin' of his music – a flute quartet, an oboe quartet, a violin and piano sonata, a piano trio, and more – Friday and Saturday nights in a private residence, then again on Sunday afternoon at First Unitarian Church. Then next weekend the Austin Symphony joins in the fun with Peter Bay leading the orchestra in a pair of performances of Mozart's monumental "Jupiter" symphony and the overture to *The Abduction From the Seraglio*. It's a Mozartian bounty that's sure to sound as sweet at 250 as the day it was written.

– R.F.

Paul Badura-Skoda delivers the Mozart 250th Birthday Weekend Lecture Friday, Jan. 27, 7pm, at First Baptist Church, 901 Trinity. The Mozart 250th Birthday Weekend Concert will be Sunday, Jan. 29, 3pm, also at First Baptist. For more information, call 371-7217 or visit www.amozartfest.org.

The Austin Chamber Music Center presents Mozart Madness Friday and Saturday, Jan. 27 and 28, 7:30pm, at a private residence and Sunday, Jan. 29, 4pm, at First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover. For more information, call 454-0026 or visit www.austinchambermusic.org.

The Austin Symphony will perform works by Mozart and Chopin Friday and Saturday, Feb. 3 and 4, 8pm, at Bass Concert Hall. For more information, call 476-6064 or visit www.austinsymphony.org.

SHARIR+BUSTAMANTE DANCEWORKS: Questions, anyone?

New year, new dances, why not a new way for audiences to look at those dances? That's what Sharir+Bustamante Danceworks figured for its first production of 2006. The accomplished modern dance company regularly uses its January concert to show off fresh works by various choreographers, but at the performances last weekend it also gave those in attendance the opportunity to question the dances' creators about the works, to find out how the movements of a piece were developed, why certain choices were made in the choreography or design, or even what certain movements meant. After each of the four works in *Danceworks Laboratory*,

the lights came up, someone grabbed a microphone, and questions were asked. On Friday, we learned about the challenges that S+B Artistic Director José Luis Bustamante faced transferring "Court Dance," the fanciful, charming site-specific work he created for First Night Austin, from the spacious, visually busy lobby of Frost Bank Tower to the smaller, bare stage of UT's McCullough Theatre. After watching her absorbing solo "Hall Spirits," we were introduced to Toshiko Namioka, a Japanese modern dance choreographer and performer who has recently moved to Austin, and learned that the intention for a dance always comes first, and her

movements arise from that. Following "Sola," a piece developed during a residency with Delfos Danza Contemporanea in Mazatlan, Mexico, dancer Andee Scott revealed that poems about silence were key in inspiring choreographer Claudia Lavista and her, and that costumer Amy Burrell built the sumptuous and elegant blouse she wore out of a table runner. The informality was infectious, the conversations illuminating. They took nothing away from the artistry or mystery of the works, but they enhanced our appreciation of the artists and their process. And it made this audience member all the more eager to see these works again.

– R.F.

KAREN MASON: Sweetest of Nights

Need a clue as to what to expect from the local debut of musical sensation Karen Mason via Austin Cabaret Theatre? Try the title of her new CD: *Sweetest of Nights*. Its eclectic batch of ballads covers the cabaret spectrum from Berlin ("Let's Face the Music and Dance") to *Aladdin* (Menken and Rice's "A Whole New World") to ABBA ("The Winner Takes It All," a song Mason *didn't* get to sing during her Drama Desk-nominated turn as Tanya in *Mamma Mia!* on Broadway and makes up for here); it's also the kind of superlative that critics like to accord her work, whether she's wowing the atreagoers as Norma Desmond in *Sunset Boulevard* in NYC or L.A., or wooing the cabaret crowd at Rainbow and Stars, the Algonquin, Feinstein's at the Regency, or the Russian Tea Room. Her voice is so rich and mighty that at one gig last fall it moved the legendary Julie Wilson to exclaim from the house, "You've got some set of pipes!" Combined with a personality like sunshine on a stage and those powerful acting chops, it's no mystery why Mason's mantle is laden with honors from the Manhattan Association of Cabarets & Clubs (seven, including one in 2004 for Major Vocalist). Now, we get to be Manhattan for a night (or two) and have Mason all to ourselves in the cozy Mansion at Judges' Hill. By phone, she shared some insights into her work.

– Robert Faires

Austin Chronicle: How do you go about choosing songs to add to your act or record?

Karen Mason: It's kind of mutated over the years. When I started out, you got kind of tired of singing certain songs and you just wanted to change certain parts of your repertoire. Now, we seem to be doing more show-driven sets, so when we're putting together an order of songs, usually I'll say, "I really want to do this one. What things are going to go around it that are going to create a theme, a show?" We've done a standards show, we did a movie-themed show. This new show that we're bringing to Austin we're calling "The Boxed Set" because it's from all five CDs we've done.

I like doing a little of everything. That really appeals to me as a performer. I always fought just landing in a couple of decades and staying there. It's not what I do well. I don't want to be a historian about it. To me, it's always about how the lyric speaks to me, Karen, and how I feel I can bring something about me and my life and who I am to the songs. How do I bring who I am into it? What part of the truth of that song – and I'm sorry if this sounds pretentious, but what part of the truth of that song speaks to me? And by the very fact that it's coming through my experiences and what I want to say with that song, it becomes necessarily mine. And it changes because it does. I have this little plaque, and it says, "Originality is the ability to conceal one's source." And I think it's really true. It's original because it's coming out of me and because I am an amalgam of all the different performers that I've seen and worked with and all the things that I've experienced. And my experiences are different than anybody else's.

AC: You have such a great background in theatre. Does that inform your singing and cabaret performance?

KM: It's all just different parts of expressing myself. Cabaret gets to be a personal expression. I am in control of that – I mean, as much as one is in control of anything in life. When I'm doing a show like *Sunset Boulevard*, it's a personal expression but with much bigger costumes and through a whole other personality. I think no matter what you're doing it's a personal expression, but certainly cabaret gets to be more of me because I get to do all the songs, and I like seeing people close up. The fourth wall is gone, so I get to look at people and communicate on a much more direct level. And it becomes more of a party atmosphere. When you go to see a musical, there's that separation, you're watching something happening *over there*. Whereas in a cabaret, I really feel like we're all in it together, and I might be the one with the microphone telling the stories, but it's really everybody participating in it. I like that.

Karen Mason will perform Thursday and Friday, Jan. 26 and 27, 8:30pm, at the Mansion at Judges' Hill, 1900 Rio Grande. For more information, call 453-2287 or visit www.austincabaret.org.



Of Cactuses, Crickets, and Cars

Cataloging the diverse wonders of FronteraFest Long Fringe 2006

A half-dozen playlets all set in cars. Ten that all deal in some way with those chirping insects called crickets and an imaginary village in Maine. The tale of a sheltered young woman who gives her cactus a name. Stories of the missing and murdered women of Juarez. A dance set in a kitchen with the female workers breaking plates. A spoof of the Faust legend. Every FronteraFest features an almost dizzying range of dramas, and this year's batch of longer works in the annual performance festival is no different. Its unlikely mix of short plays, character sketches, and dances reveals a world of wonders as diverse as our own outside the theatre. Last week, the *Chronicle Arts* team hit the 2006 Long Fringe to catalog those wonders for you. Their reports on the 11 shows running this year ought to be enough to prod you into making at least one trip to the performance edge this week.

All Long Fringe performances are at the Blue Theater, 916 Springdale. Dates and times for remaining performances for each show follows the review. Ticket prices vary. For reservations, call 479-PLAY. For more information, visit www.hydeparktheatre.org.
— Robert Faires



Dance Carousel

BRET BROOKSHIRE

Dance Carousel

Running Time: 1 hr

What might I be able to say to encourage you, your relatives, your friends and acquaintances, and people you happen to meet in passing on the street, to turn out in droves to see Spank Dance Company's delightful *Dance Carousel*? Would it be enough to say that it is one of the most pleasurable, thought-provoking, eclectic hours you likely will ever spend in a theatre? What if I said that Spank Artistic Director Ellen Bartel's idea of having 10 choreographers create four one-minute dances each and then present them in a kind of round is not just a neat, quirky idea, but a brilliantly entertaining one? Would that be enough? If I said that there was never a moment when I was not entirely stimulated and intrigued, more than a few moments when I was completely surprised, numerous moments when I laughed out loud, and some moments when I was moved to tears? (Did I mention that you should go?) How about if I said that you get to see some of the best-known dancers in Austin – including Andrea Ariel mixing environmental consciousness with physical power and grace and Audra Williams doing a mean salsa – with folks that you haven't heard of but will, including Ashley Parker Overton, in my favorite pieces of the evening, combining amusing spoken-word stories interpreted with movement? That it mixes the innovative – choreographer Megan Klotz's dances appear only on film – with the traditional – choreographers J. Tietz-Gwin's and C. Wong's dances are balletic and beautiful – in ways that you cannot anticipate? That more often than not, it leaves you wanting more? (What more could be said?) How about if I said that it is an arts event worthy of both your money and your time? Would that do it? I'm hoping it will.
— Barry Pineo

(Saturday, Jan. 28, noon; Sunday, Jan. 29, 1:45pm)



BRET BROOKSHIRE

The Most Beautiful Lullaby You've Ever Heard

Running Time: 1 hr, 15 min

Stop me if you've heard this one: A woman and a man are falling for each other, but there's this other guy ... *The Most Beautiful Lullaby You've Ever Heard* concerns that universal, the love triangle, only in playwright Greg Romero's experiment the apex is just the narrator.

The play captures the nuances of a courtship between nameless lovers seized in breathless moments that feel like a record skipping over the same scene but playing different outcomes.

Director Jasson Minadakis doesn't let the actors look at each other much, mostly just stare ahead at the audience as in a scripted reading but without the scripts. This makes the production seem as if it is happening in some romantic ether where the narrator is the puppet master and the two characters are his marionettes. He introduces their conversations in various places set in his imagination, such as on the beach, at a bar, or in their apartment. But underneath his monotone is a sense that he is the obstacle to their future communion. He turns the lights on, reads their onstage actions, and blocks their exit attempts.

Romero, working on his MFA in playwriting at UT, lets the characters interview each other with quirky repartee. "Come here often?" the man says. "I'm a regular," the woman says. "You're irregular?" As they get to know each other, they subtly start to show their dark underbellies, revealing secret fetishes and squalid pasts. They hurt each other with Mamet-type verbal abuse. "I wouldn't mind if you hit me over the head with a beer bottle," he says. "Fuck you," she says. Romero's lullaby sways between dark and light, but since it involves our favorite entertainment variant, love, it's the most beautiful.

— Patti Hadad

(Friday, Jan. 27, 7pm; Saturday, Jan. 28, 11:15pm)

Autobahn

Running Time: 1 hr, 45 min

Although best-known as the writer and director of films such as *In the Company of Men* and *Your Friends and Neighbors*, Neil Labute writes for live performance as well, and this production consists of six such pieces, all vignettes revolving around couples in cars, and each, in large ways and small, displays Labute's flair for revealing scathing middle-class humanity at its worst. In "All Apologies," a man tries to make up with his wife for calling her a certain famously derogatory four-letter word in an Albertsons. "Bench Seat" finds a young man attempting to break up with his somewhat disturbed girlfriend. "Funny" centers on a daughter on the way home from rehab delivering a disturbing ultimatum to her mother. In "Road Trip," an older man takes a seemingly abducted young woman cross-country. In "Long Division," the driver tries to get his passenger to retrieve a gaming system from his estranged wife. And in "Merge," a man discovers that his wife has allowed a massive indiscretion.

The 12 actors are for the most part well-cast and watchable, but there were some distractions. The set consists of a dozen chairs, and while directors Rich Martinez and Will Snider do some interesting things with this seemingly static arrangement, each spoken scene sits in the exact center of the thrust stage, and the sides of the audience get cheated. Also, the actors often don't vocally play to the space, so parts of the stories get lost because we can't hear them. In addition, the actors have to mime the driving, and it isn't an understatement to say they're often all over the road. But when one of the pieces works, as does "Bench Seat," the ironic but often comic cruelty that lies at the heart of Labute's writing cuts like a sharp paper knife.

— Barry Pineo

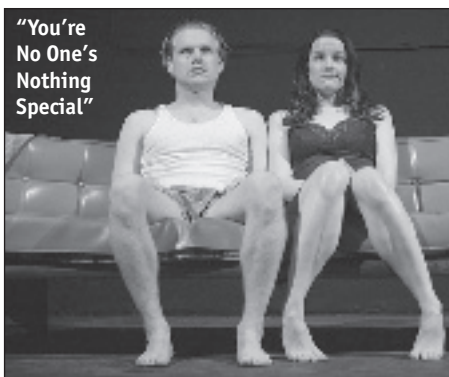
(Sunday, Jan. 29, 3:30pm)

Port Arthur/You're No One's Nothing Special

Running Time: 45 min

Like a theatrical Noah, veteran director Ken Webster brings his latest dramatic figures to the stage two by two. This pair of two-handers revolves around the way two people fit together, how someone else can and sometimes can't complete you. The curtain raiser is Webster's self-penned "Port Arthur," set on a Greyhound bus headed to that corner of Southeast Texas' Golden Triangle. In one seat is Keith, desperately trying to focus on a magazine, which he's unable to owing to the exuberant exclamations of the fellow in the adjacent seat, one Alton Hebert, who loves riding the bus, loves his hometown (which he takes pains to pronounce as "Arthur" and not "author" the way so many of his fellow citizens do), and loves sharing little facts about the place with whomever is in earshot. What starts as a classic comedy bit about the irritation of strangers – driven by Noah Neal's blindingly chipper Alton – deepens with revelations about the men's shared past and a turn in the road that would give Rod Serling a good chuckle. An amusing lesson about karma on the busma.

Following that ride is Ann Marie Healy's "You're No One's Nothing Special," which depicts the romantic rendezvous of Rhonda and Chet after their meeting at a seminar. On the one hand, they seem a perfect match: In



BRET BROOKSHIRE

"You're No One's Nothing Special"

the Swimming Pool of Life, neither one seems to have waded much deeper than ankle level, and both are feeling a powerful pull toward change. But making a fit of their hearts and minds proves tougher than fitting their bodies together, and their comical groping for common ground develops into a surprisingly tender search for direction in life. Jamison Driskill and Heather Huggins make us simultaneously laugh and cringe at the awkwardness of strangers with nothing to say to each other, with Huggins turning herself into a pillar of yearning, leaning forward, brow furrowed, desperate to accommodate someone just as a way of making a human connection. This unfulfilled duo leaves us with a deeper appreciation of the difficulty of two becoming one.

— Robert Faires

(Thursday, Jan. 26, 9:15pm; Saturday, Jan. 28, 7:15pm; Sunday, Jan. 29, 9:45pm)

continued on p.34



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This project is funded in part by the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division and by a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts.

The Candy Dish

Running Time: 1 hr, 15 min

If there’s one word that can silence a child – or an adult, for that matter – it is “candy.” But the audience couldn’t keep quiet at the Getalong Gang Performance Group’s *Candy Dish*, an assortment of choreographed delights. Charmed by eight sweet dances from Zenobia Taylor, a founder of Getalong, and Ballet East artists Amberlee Cantrell and Funmilayo Hill, they couldn’t stop laughing.

Each choreographer concocts her confections out of her own personal flavors: Cantrell draws on music for inspiration; Hill employs Polynesian finesse; Taylor lampoons different styles and eras. The show hits the ground dancing, so to speak, with Cantrell’s “Wasted in Our Leotards” and “Barely Overwhelming,” driven by the jazzy-folk harmonies of Medeski, Martin, & Wood and Herbie Hancock. The dancers use their hips with flawlessly sensuous movements. Cantrell’s piece “and then I find myself Stuck again” is performed by Elizabeth Palmer, who rightly has a solo act demonstrating her graceful endurance.

Red flowers are the object of frustration and affection for Hill, who combines the Japanese technopop of Towa Tei and striking beauty of the aloha spirit.

Taylor’s, however, carves out stories, which are the nuggets of the show. The ladies are dressed in Fifties petticoats for explosive dancing to bubblegum tunes like “You Don’t Own Me” and “Heart and Soul.” Then comes the wrestling of a mother and restless daughter behind the back of a Southern preacher. Somehow, the daughter, the elastic Angela Johnson, winds up wriggling all over the preacher like a monkey crawling on Jack Hanna. Two ladies tug at the same man, Spencer Driggers, who also plays the preacher, while yearning, as we all have, to Foreigner’s “Feels Like the First Time.”

The Getalong Gang dives into the show’s title and comes up performing on sugar highs for any viewer’s palate.

– Patti Hadad

(Friday, Jan. 27, 9pm)

Irene Is a Cactus

Running Time: 1 hr, 30 min

RoHo Productions presents a heartfelt, character-driven story about a woman, Gwen (Susan Mara Stith), who seeks independence after leading a sheltered life. Set in a Florida town, Gwen and her overprotective sister Shayne (Diana Reddish) struggle to adjust their relationship dynamic as Gwen establishes her identity apart from her protected childhood by living on her own for the first time. Gwen’s neighbor, a laid-back artist fascinated with Gwen’s childish curiosity, develops a romantic friendship with her. A freewheeling poet and a stuttering realist also color Gwen’s transition into independence. *Irene Is a Cactus*, written by company member Rocky Hopson, is a delicate study of kindness and chaos in what could be an unsafe world. As indicated in the play’s title, Gwen’s habit of naming her plants instills in them personality traits that mirror fragility and strength in a forgiving and accepting muse on the human spirit.

– Heather Barfield Cole

(Thursday, Jan. 26, 7pm; Sunday, Jan. 29, 5:45pm)



Among the Sand and Smog

Running Time: 1 hr, 30 min

An ongoing problem in Juarez, Mexico, is its hundreds of young women, mostly *maquiladora* factory workers, disappearing. Their bodies are found in the desert or not at all. SONAV Stage and Screen’s play addresses these murders and unsolved mystery plaguing Juarez. Three acts structure varying perspectives on the situation. Beginning at a women’s rally, a television star Julie (Felicia Lopez), ignorant of the situation, is to speak before a crowd on behalf of the crisis. As she waits to give her speech, she engages in candid conversation with a mother (Marisa Varela) missing her daughter. The women bond as the emotional affect of the trauma reveals itself. In the second act, two men are held in separate jail cells where they wait for months to get a fair trial. The authorities provide them with no answers as the two men seem pinned as scapegoats for the real perpetrators. Maurice Ripke and Jose Villareal as Victor and Guillermo play card games through long hours of waiting, providing informative details, but asking questions more, about how and why the murders happen. The final act is a haunting montage with actors performing the missing women’s voices and bodies while describing their own tortured deaths. *Among the Sand and Smog* is a responsibly executed and potentially powerful production on a media-hungry subject.

– Heather Barfield Cole

(Saturday, Jan. 28, 3:30pm)

Of or Pertaining to ...

Running Time: 1 hr

What do a few grocery carts, some busted plates, Lords of Acid, and more than 20 spray-painted T-shirts have in common? They all appear in *Of or Pertaining to ...* where an all-female group, under the guidance of a choreographer named Dillar, interprets scenes plucked from the dancers’ realities. To the chirpy overhead music of Jimmy Cliff’s “I Can See Clearly Now,” the girls abandon their inhibitions in a supermarket (what we all secretly wish we could do in the aisles), belting out “chasse” and performing acrobatic leaps off their carts.

In a piece choreographed by Karen Morris, a waitress, the girls toil in a kitchen, breaking plates to Manu Chao’s “Esperanza” (again, what we wish we could do) and spinning off into heated hysteria. “Bedtimes Stories” raves, with two songs from Lords of Acid’s *Lust* album playing while three girls in leotards engage in some sexually charged wrestling and carry out acts of onanism. As in the other pieces, the performance’s drive is to speak silently through their feminine bodies, moving limbs in every direction, sometimes gracefully, sometimes dissonantly.

Deep in the show, we recognize the girls as women with tattoos and spastic hair who have more to break than just a glass ceiling. Several cacophonous and uneasy minutes pass

during “The View From the Window” while the dancers move along with the fractures and crashes of breaking glass until the tune “I Shall Be Released” by old Austin performer Cody Hubach leads them into a hoedown.

Finally, these women wearing white T-shirts with words like “fail,” “brown,” “ugly,” “kill,” “envy,” “hurt,” “gay,” and “lost” haphazardly spray-painted on them promenade and flip to Curtis Mayfield and Dead Prez. Bar signs say “I’m for Sale,” “Life Is Toxic,” and “News Be Surprised,” and red lights gleam on their angry faces. Rough and uncut, it is young adults jumping out and forcing the world to pay attention.

– Patti Hadad

(Saturday, Jan. 28, 9:30pm; Sunday, Jan. 29, noon)

Past Present Future Tense

Running Time: 1 hr, 15 min

Humdrum collective offers *Past Present Future Tense*, a movement and text piece about a couple experiencing growing pains and doubts as they reveal the infidelities, lies, and love in their relationship. A cardboard box sits center stage. A whistle from offstage suggests we have entered the play’s aesthetic atmosphere. Man (Noel Gaulin) in tuxedo briskly passes from one stage corner to another. He arranges more cardboard boxes in the space. More whistling, then She (Erin Meyer) surprises by popping out of a box. The duo judiciously

explore spaces far and wide on stage, opening themselves as vulnerable but nimble dancers of emotional turbulence. Experiments with nonlinear plot through distortions of time and place merge smoothly into a climax of breakage and rupture. Man and Woman destroy the flimsy foundations they have built together by angrily collapsing boxes, gorging on liquor, and aggressive thrusts and forward bends. Using gesture and stillness in physical exploration of pain and passion, humdrum accomplishes the innovation and adventure expected from a fringe festival piece.

– Heather Barfield Cole

(Friday, Jan. 27, 11pm)



Cricket Radio

Running Time: 1 hr, 5 min

As the economy flattens and the cost of producing live dramatic works goes through the roof, the recent proliferation of “radio plays” makes sense. It’s much simpler, not to mention more cost-effective, to produce a dramatic presentation that doesn’t require sets, costumes, or elaborate lights. While producing them might be relatively inexpensive, the worth of radio plays goes beyond their ease of staging. Because of their conventions – among them amplified voices, live sound effects, and an interesting kind of direct address delivery – they appeal to an audience’s imagination in ways that more traditional dramatic presentations often don’t.

This set of 10 original plays is being produced by Austin Script Works, which, for those unfamiliar with it, is a support organization for playwrights that boasts an impressive 100 members. Each year ASW sponsors the Out of Ink series, in which members are given 48 hours to write a short play incorporating three elements. This year the three elements were: crickets; a countdown; and the fictional town of Piscacadawadaquoddywoggin, Maine. One more element: It had to be a five-minute radio play.

The selected results, perhaps not surprisingly, fall into three basic categories: 1) traditional narrative stories, of which I particularly enjoyed “A Quiet Night” by Priscilla Sample, in which two men attempt to capture the “cricket conductor” and thus control the cricket cacophony; 2) surreal/impressionistic stories; and 3) stories that combine the narrative with the surreal. The last were most successful, especially “Waiting Isn’t Merely Empty Hoping,” by Katherine Catmull, which combined an amusing story about two people waiting for a table in a strange and busy restaurant with a truly impressive soundscape. Sound was, in fact, the most impressive aspect of the evening, both the sounds of voices and the sounds of sounds, which is entirely appropriate for plays that depend so heavily on the aural for their stories.

– Barry Pineo

(Saturday, Jan. 28, 1:45pm; Sunday, Jan. 29, 8pm)

Doctor Faustus Confronts His Damnation

Running Time: 1 hr

Johann Faustus: physician, scholar, alchemist, punkass chump.

The infamous deal-maker with the devil is finally exposed as the chuckle-headed buffoon he truly was in this clever little lampoon from the Austiner Ensemble. With little more than a table, a couple of chairs, a few puppets, two flyswatters, and a well-worn copy of Nietzsche's *Beyond Good and Evil*, the five members of this company totally trash the name of the not-so-good doctor and in the process lay waste to the work of Brecht, Goethe, Marlowe, Beckett, Sartre, and pretty much any writer ever to put pen to paper on the subject of Faustus, Satan, or hell.

Poor Chris Marlowe gets the worst of it, with writer-performer Joshua Lellis roasting the Elizabethan playwright over his drama's philosophical incongruities and lack of a ripping good climax. As he guides us through a garage-sale Cliff's Notes staging of the work, Lellis periodically

pauses the action to offer us alternate – and in his view, preferable – scenarios, including a Marxist Faustus, a Calvinist Faustus, a Faustus who tries to trick the trickster by swapping clothes with Helen of Troy just before Mephistopheles shows up to claim his soul, and a Faustus in the netherworld, forced to endure the incomprehensible torture of watching *Terms of Endearment* on the Lifetime channel.

The Austiners make a mockery of old Faustus, and is it a hoot: a pitchfork-totin' puppet Lucifer; a flyswatter duel with a man-fly; the face that launched a thousand ships in a thrift-store toga and bad blond wig; literary satire; puns; and the titular physician as overstuffed, conniving welcher, played with appealingly hammy pomposity by Ted Meredith. As happens with parodies like this, some gags invariably fall flat. But the wit and goodwill of the ensemble ultimately carry the day. It's that rare Long Fringe show that puts you through hell and makes you laugh about it. – Robert Faires

(Saturday, Jan. 28, 7:15pm)

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3rd Place - \$250

Honorable Mentions (2) - \$50 gift certificate to BookPeople

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AFTER A FASHION BY STEPHEN MACMILLAN MOSER

METER READING I've just gotten my second parking ticket ever, for an expired meter. Three times in my life I have let a parking meter expire while I was parked at it, and three times I've been nailed – within moments of the expiration. The first time was in front of **Opal Divine's** on Sixth, in which four minutes had elapsed before I got to my car, but **Lovely Rita Metermaid** was already there. Actually, having slapped the ticket on my car, she is now **Fugly Rita Metermaid**. The second time was at **Moonshine**, but I arrived at my car at the same time **Officer Bob** did and barely escaped. Then yesterday, I was parked in front of **Antone's** and got back to my car nine minutes after the meter expired. **Inspector Jorge** was already scribbling the ticket and shaking his head at my utter stupidity for letting the meter expire. Inspector Jorge did not care that I was a very busy socialite, hopping from one engagement to another and was much too busy to deal with a ticket. I am convinced that parking meters are connected with a main switchboard with LEDs that light up every time a meter expires. The operator monitoring the board then immediately radios the parking police, who arrive within minutes. And those valets who can just stick a hood over a meter and call it theirs for the night? Hell, I think I'll go into the parking meter hood manufacturing business – who wouldn't want their own little meter hood that they could just stick on any meter and claim

as their own? But wouldn't it be much simpler if we could just reserve our parking spaces online? We could just log onto a Web site, enter the information such as where we will be, when we will need the meter, and how long we expect to be there. The computer would then display all the nearby parking meters that we can choose from. After deciding on one, and an alternative, we would make payment online and be given a code that we enter into the parking meter when we arrive. If an unauthorized driver tried to park in our space before we arrived, the meter would dispatch Inspector Jorge or Fugly Rita Metermaid, who would have the offender towed immediately. I think it's a very simple solution to a vexing problem, *n'est-ce pas*?

GLOBES NOTES The world has done a terrible thing to **Mariah Carey**; we've led her to believe she's beautiful and talented. And we let her on the **Golden Globes** for some unknown reason. Whatever she thought she was doing there, she looked like she'd been inflated into her **Chanel** gown, and *not* in a good way. When she smiles, she looks like she's passing gas. **Pamela Anderson** – dear god, what's wrong with her? It appears as if her breasts had been newly inflated and put in a baby sling tied behind her neck. **Drew Barrymore** looked like she dressed for the **Valley of the Ho Ho Ho Green Giant**. **Virginia Wood** and I have set up a founda-



The lovely Marcia Gay Harden and the garrulous Lauren Bacall at last year's TFHOF preparty at Deborah Green's home

tion to buy Drew a bra. **Gwyneth Paltrow** not only looked ridiculous in what appeared to be a costume from **Emma**, but compounded her error by **Doing Her Own Hair**. **Geena Davis** looked like she'd just been hired as the house model for **Red Lobster**. **Keira Knightly** is officially the **Most Beautiful Woman on the Planet** and her **Valentino** gown was the best of the night. **Catherine Deneuve**, who usually shows all the young

upstarts how it's done, bungled her moment onstage with a dreadful gown that was as disturbing as it was hideous. **Hilary Swank?** Booring and Did Her Own Hair. **Melanie Griffith** obviously ran out of collagen before the show and looked less ducklike than usual, but her prison tattoo destroyed any possibility of glamour. **Scarlett Johansson** looked curvy as a cartoon madam in her Valentino (careful, Scarlett, that's a figure that can look matronly very quickly – just ask **Mariah**). **Renée Zellweger** looked gorgeous. **Felicity Huffman** looked gorgeous and gave the best acceptance speech, for **Transamerica**.

AWARD-A-RAMA Speaking of awards shows, the nearest and dearest to my heart, **Texas Film Hall of Fame**, continues to rack up star power. In addition to "Sexiest Man Alive" **Matthew McConaughey**: the dynamic **JoBeth Williams**, who will be inducted by **The Big Chill** director **Lawrence Kasdan**; **Kris Kristofferson**, who will be inducted by **John Sayles**; and **Cybill Shepherd**, who will induct **The Last Picture Show**. It is always a privilege to be on the panel that chooses the film clips used in the tributes, and this year I'll be determining the lineup for JoBeth Williams and Kris Kristofferson. Famed producer **Linda Obst** is on the committee and will be in attendance, as will actress/media correspondent **Maria Menounos**.

Write to our Style Avatar with your related events, news, and haute bits: style@austinchronicle.com or PO Box 49066, Austin, 78765 or 458-6910 (fax).

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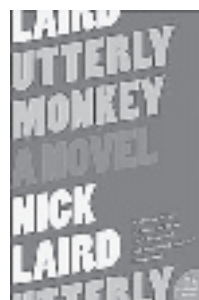
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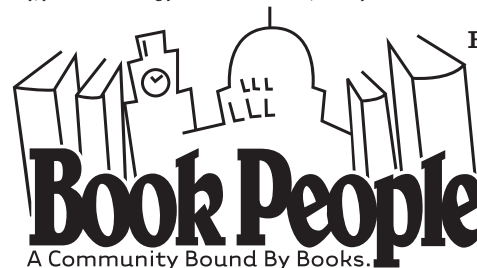
NICK LAIRD
UTTERLY MONKEY
Harper Perennial
Friday 27 January, 7 pm

Come by BookPeople Friday night to meet rising literary rockstar Nick Laird, a young Irishman whose debut will have your sides aching with laughter. *Utterly Monkey* is a searing, fiercely funny, and ultimately redemptive novel about surviving an office job, outwitting the bad guys, and, hopefully, getting the girl.

ANDY GREENWALD
MISS MISERY
Simon & Schuster
Monday 30 January, 7 pm

Andy Greenwald has written an extraordinary debut in the tradition of Nick Hornby and *The Perks of Being A Wallflower*. Meet David Gould, the protagonist of *Miss Misery*, whose totally fictional online hipster alter-ego starts become confusingly tangled up with real life. BookPeople is really excited to ask Andy all the questions we want about making perfect mix CDs, writing funny books and perfect blog entries, and what it's like to be the hottest young author on the block.

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KORNWOLF

by Tristan Egolf
Black Cat, 379 pp.,
\$14 (paper)

Midway through things, Tristan Egolf's third novel resets itself. It rests, for a spell, where it began – in the frenzied, relatively first-person cognitive processes of a wolfman – as if the author wasn't quite sure what he had gotten himself into. It's a break we didn't get in *Lord of the Barnyard* and *Skirt and the Fiddle*, which, like *Kornwolf*, are ragged yet weighty satires concerning the various baskets and belts of landlocked America. Those, though, are narratives that panicked, hyperventilated, and eventually disappointed amid moments like the ones leading up to Egolf's pause here. And, by pause, I mean that of perhaps a rabid Wordsworth bounding through small-town Pennsylvania in the space of an italicized page or two.

The "individual in question – variously referred to as 'It,' 'The Shitbeast,' 'The Devil,' 'The Corn Dog' and 'Dutchies' Revenge'" or, if you prefer, a "hammerheaded Nixon" – has just "snapped from his spot at the counter and shot down the aisle, scampering – past the jukebox, over the welcome mat, out the exit and into the night," leaving in his wake at the Dogboy bar a busted-up meddler; the busted-up meddler's ravished girlfriend; and a stunned bunch of motorcycle toughs known as the Heathens, courtesy of whom he has just snorted a "quadruple dose" of crystal meth cut with muscle relaxant (this chasing whiskey, Valium, and "the tavern's notoriously greasy cuisine"). A confrontation just pages earlier revealed Ephraim Bontrager as more than a mute, disillusioned, possibly lunatic Amish teen abused by his father; now, we know him as a beast willing to inflict human violence, a force outside the removed observations and myth-driven rumors of other characters. It's almost too sudden, too explosive, and it threatens to wreck the effort.

Then, the somehow restorative pause: "startled cries from behind, diminishing. Open air ... to a plateau of aster and jimsonweed, old rusty wire on appendages, puncturing flesh – then release – a pounding inside, as of moving again ... through bullthistle, knapweed and dogbane to aorta/ven-tricle, hammer and anvil. Surging. Thirst and palpitations. Overload, onward" *Kornwolf's* plot, till this point, has come that close to overload-ing. It has taken on the media and organized religion while distributing significant backstory among a handful of crucial characters. It has thrived under tangents on boxing and heavy metal, withstood less expert and entertaining ones. It has brandished a lot of actual German spoken by a wolfman. And, with the tough love that some have interpreted as misanthropy in Egolf's work, it has proven occasionally unreasonable, unwieldy, unpalatable. In short, it has had too much going on.

Egolf, who committed suicide last May, must have sensed this: He titled his subsequent, penultimate section "Bring It In," and he does just that, taking fewer shots, as it were, but sporting a higher shooting percentage.



Ephraim's thread is pulled taut and level as others support, rather than clamor to overtake, it. Ambition diminished just a bit, we get a classic monster without excessive cliché. In turn, the novel soars – it's funny, violent, sad, subversive, flawed, distorted, and wordy, still – its climax out of control but in the capable hands of a narrator more focused on storytelling than on social criticism and shock value.

"Nonetheless," as a bunch of stoned Amishkind discussing the overturned patroller of a ball-gagged cop with a candle up his ass dangling from the ceiling of a barn during said climax's Halloween party realize when they see a shape approaching, "there could be no doubt: it was Ephraim. Sure as

the evening was strange. A bigger, more menacing Ephraim, perhaps – turned inside out and then loose on the world – but Ephraim, as everyone present had come to know him, in recent days, all the same. Gazing down on them now, as a wrathful captain assailing a mutinous crew (soon to be walking the plank, every one of them), sheerly imposing. Omniscient. Indomitable." – Shawn Badgley

ALSO THIS WEEK ...

The Writers' League of Texas has announced that novelist **Sarah Bird** will receive the organization's second annual Award of Literary Merit, following **Ann Patchett**. 2006 is shaping up to be a good year for the beautiful and talented Bird, whose sixth "real" novel (she has also made a name for herself in the romance and mystery genres, not to mention screenwriting and journalism), *The Flamenco Academy*, will be released by Knopf in June. She'll be honored by the WLT on September 15 at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum. "It's a giant thrill," she says, "but I'm worried, because Ann Patchett was such a phenomenal speaker that I'm scared they're gonna expect to be dazzled again. Dream effin' on." For more information, see www.writersleague.org and www.randomhouse.com/knopf/authors/bird/index.html.

The postmark application deadline for the 2006-07 **Dobie Paisano Fellowships** is Friday, Jan. 27. Applicants must meet at least one of the following requirements: be a native Texan, have lived in Texas for at least two years, or have published writing that has a Texas subject. Visit www.utexas.edu/ogs/Paisano/info.html or e-mail Dr. **Audrey N. Slate**, director, at aslate@mail.utexas.edu to find out more.

NOTABLE UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST ...

February is a big month at **Barnes & Noble Arboretum**: Austin's **Elizabeth Crook** is the store's featured author, and she'll do a reading and signing there on Feb. 7 at 7pm. Look for the *Chronicle's* review of Crook's *The Night Journal* in the coming weeks. Look for **Lily Tomlin** – yeah, Lily Tomlin – at the store on Feb. 11, 7:30pm, signing copies of the DVD *The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe*. And look for **Bill Simmons** signing his *Now I Can Die in Peace: How ESPN's Sports Guy Found Salvation, With a Little Help From Nomar, Pedro, Shawshank, and the 2004 Red Sox* on Feb. 15 at 7:30pm.

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The Shoreline Grill Burns Night will be a set price of \$50 per head to include the whisky toasts, full four-course meal and lots of entertainment. Held in our banquet room overlooking Town Lake, at 7:30pm, why not put an innovative twist on your weekend and celebrate with us at the Shoreline Grill!

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food

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Revelatory Vegan

Marveling at Nu Age Cafe's ambitious but uneven menu

BY KATE THORNBERRY

Picture this: A gracious restaurant, complete with table linen and cloth napkins, polished silverware and water glasses made of glass. Servers are in black and white, lighting is subdued, and the menu is extensive, innovative, and vegan. Everything is vegan. You have to admit, this is a great concept: an elegant yet casual vegan restaurant.

From the minute I walked in its Tarrytown location, I was rooting for Nu Age Cafe on the idea of it alone. I am not a vegan, but I know a few, and I can't say I have ever envied their cuisine options.

There are many restaurants that have nothing to offer a vegan client aside from a dinner salad with a slice of lemon. Comparatively, Nu Age offers an opulent array of choices, truly a rare luxury.

Upon entry, you encounter a display case filled with a comprehensive variety of teas. The tea list at the Nu Age functions as the wine list ordinarily does elsewhere. There are European herbal teas, therapeutic teas, and Pyramid tea infusions. (There are also iced teas and sparklers, fruit and vegetable juices, soy milks and smoothies. Alcohol is not available, but you can bring your own.) On my first visit, I had a Kiwi Sparkler (\$3), a beverage consisting of pureed kiwis frozen into cubes, with a light soda poured over. Essentially, the fanciest glass of Sprite ever, and very refreshing and festive. On my second visit, I checked out the hot teas, and sampled the Blue Forest Tea (blueberries, hibiscus, raisins, black currant, and elderberry, \$3), which was heavenly, and the Silk Road Tea (chamomile, peppermint, vervain, wallflower, marigold, and rosemary, \$3). The place of wine was perfectly held by the complex and heady teas.

Did I mention the menu is extensive? Perhaps overly so, in that making up your mind is quite difficult, and the execution of the dishes is uneven. I admire the chefs for their ambition. The appetizers were all stunningly presented, geometrically arranged on gleaming white plates, and glowed with color. The Rainbow Soy Wraps were the hands-down favorite (\$6), a blend of delicate cabbage and mushrooms, wrapped in a soy tortilla, and then battered, fried, and sliced into crunchy wedges. With the wedges comes a house-made ketchup so delicious it would convert the snootiest Frenchman into admitting that ketchup is a respectable sauce. The Scallion Mango Pita (\$5) is both sweet and savory, with lovely cubes of fresh mango, jicama, and field greens astride grilled triangles of scallion pita. The Hummus (\$5) is fresh and beany, and served with sliced carrots and cucumbers. The Nu Age Dumplings (\$4, steamed or pan fried), though perfect in texture and consistency, were less flavorful than the soy wraps.

The Mango Spinach Salad (\$8) was a meal in itself, and the blend of flavors (mango, spinach, candied walnuts, sweet grape tomatoes, and French-fried onion rings), innovative. Sadly, the tart dressing was too heavily applied, or perhaps just too acidic. The Nu Age Veggie Burger (\$7), however, is unquestionably the finest I have ever eaten. Served with yam and yucca fries (and the transcendent ketchup), it is nicely upscale, but the remarkable thing about it (that I found irresistible) is that it is really *does* taste like a healthier and more wholesome Big Mac. How they captured the flavor of melted American cheese without actually using any cheese whatsoever remains a piquant mystery.

NU AGE CAFE

2425 Exposition, 469-9390
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www.nuagecafe.com



JOHN ANDERSON

The Malaysian Roti Prata (\$8), soy globs in a coconut curry, was unfortunately both mushy and rubbery, although the roti, which are rather like popover discs grilled to order, were beyond scrumptious, simultaneously airy, chewy, and crisp. The Garden Stir-Fried Noodles (\$8) were nicely seasoned and filling, as was the Japanese-style basiled eggplant (\$7), but the dish that truly wowed me is the Sesame Seitan (\$15). Served with bright green curly kale, the seitan had the toothsome, crispy mouthfeel of General Tso's chicken, the sauce lightly redolent of black bean paste and dried plums. Absolutely outstanding. The brown rice, wrapped in a banana leaf, that accompanied the seitan was a testament to cooking skill, in that (gasp) it was light and fluffy. In case that slipped by you, I will repeat: short grain brown rice, light and fluffy.

From the dessert list, we chose the wildly popular Nu Age Chocolate Cake (\$5). Despite the absence of both butter and eggs, the cake is moist, with an intense chocolate flavor, light icing and a delicate crumb. We also sampled the Hazlenut Napoleon (\$5) crisp superthin wafers drizzled with fruit sauce, layered with vanilla soy cream. Not as incredible as the chocolate cake, but I managed to eat every bit.

The Nu Age uses organic ingredients whenever possible, and you do not have to be a vegan (or even a vegetarian) to have a wonderful meal. I imagine that most people's experiences at the Nu Age will be similar to my own; some dishes fantastic, and others so-so. But what a treat it is to have a place like this in town. ■

EVENT MENU: JANUARY 27-FEBRUARY 2

Enjoy a selection of fine Southern Italian wines from the portfolio of **Fuedi di San Gregorio** paired with a five-course Southern Italian Feast at **Ciola's** (1310 RR 620 S. Ste. C-1, 263-9936). Tickets are \$75 and reservations are required; 7pm Tuesday, Jan. 31.

It's not too late to contact the **Project Transitions** office (454-8646, www.projecttransitions.org) and make reservations to attend one of the fabulous **Guess Who's Coming to Dinner** parties and the champagne and dessert reception. Tickets are \$100 per person, and proceeds go to the agency that provides hospice and support services for persons and families in our community living with HIV/AIDS.

FOOD-O-FILE

BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

CH-CH-CHANGES AT THCW&FF

During the past few years, controversy has swirled around the *Saveur* Texas Hill Country Wine & Food Festival: It went through three directors in three years; longtime board members resigned, calling for leadership changes; many longtime volunteers and attendees were uncomfortable with the direction the festival took in partnership with the national food magazine *Saveur* and under the management contract with Capital Sports & Entertainment. When the festival ended last year, the board of directors made it clear that changes were being contemplated and everything was on the table. Last week, the new (old) face of the festival emerged. **Harvey Giblin** continues as president of the event, and some board members who had left have returned. The contract with Capital Sports & Entertainment was not renewed, and, in an effort to "reclaim our Texas roots," the festival also chose not to continue the partnership with *Saveur*. While it is difficult to gauge the impact of these changes until this new management structure actually presents an event, the schedule provided to the press reflects less New York influence and national media exposure, the participation of fewer national celebrity chefs, and greater concentration on the diverse culinary heritage of Texas. The newly renamed Texas Hill Country Wine & Food Festival is scheduled for April 6-9 at the Four Seasons Hotel and various other area locations. This should be one to watch.

BREAD IS BACK!

Actually, it never left, according to **King Arthur Flour** marketing representative **Allison Rogers**. Rogers was in Central Texas recently promoting the upcoming 20-city teaching tour King Arthur is presenting, and we talked bread-making one day over tacos at Curra's. (The New England native was eager to soak up all the Texas sunshine and Mexican food she could, and I was happy to oblige.) It seems King Arthur's national flour and catalog sales didn't suffer during the nation's long low-carb nightmare, and neither did business at their Vermont bakery and retail store. Home bakers all over the country are exceptionally loyal to King Arthur's reliable nonbromated flours and hard-to-find catalog items. (I'm a KA catalog junkie myself and purchase the flour at HEB.) The classes are designed to share good baking information while continuing to promote the brand. King Arthur's traveling bread instructor is in the area this week and will present classes on Friday, Jan. 26, at the **Meeting Place** (402 Allen Pkwy.) in San Marcos from 11am to 1pm (sweet doughs) and from 7 to 9pm (artisan breads). On Saturday, Jan. 27, classes take place at the **Wingate Inn & Conference Center** (1209 N. I-35) in Round Rock from 11am to 1pm (sweet doughs) and 3 to 5pm (artisan breads). The classes are free and do not require preregistration. Participants will receive free recipes, coupons, bread samples, and door prizes.

NUBIAN QUEEN LOLA'S CAJUN KITCHEN

1815 Rosewood, 542-9269

Monday-Saturday, 9am-9pm

Lola Stephens moved here from Lake Charles, La., in 1980, after growing up cooking at the sides of her grandmother and mom. It was supposed to be a brief pit stop on her way to California. Money ran out, so she got a cashier's job, and she liked Austin so much that she never left. In the late Eighties, times got tough. Stephens lost her job and was homeless for two years. Optimist that she is, she never lost her faith, and fought her way back. She now raises four daughters, ages 11 to 17, three of whom she adopted from a friend in need.

About two years ago, she was passing the corner of Rosewood and Chicon and saw a for-rent sign out of the corner of her eye, on what used to be Nanny's, a neighborhood soul-food joint. With \$500 scraped together from savings, friends, and donations from the congregation of her church, Stephens was able to secure the spot for a month. She cleaned it up and did some painting and decorating, the predominant colors being purple and yellow, "the colors of Mardi Gras and Jacob's coat," she says.

For three months, she didn't have the money to actually open the door, but an inquisitive contractor repeatedly stopped by to see when she was going to open. Her answer was always the same: "I'm trying to scrape the money together for pots and pans, equipment, and refrigeration." Not long after, he stopped again, picked her up, and took her on a \$1,000-plus donated shopping spree. All he wanted was a place to get some good Cajun food, and to help a fellow human in need.

Nubian Queen Lola's is small, with one long communal table running down the middle. Mardi Gras beads hang from the ceiling, and inspirational messages and knickknacks line the walls. By the kitchen door is the coolest James Brown figurine you'll ever see.

For a Cajun cafe, it's surprising that one of the things Stephens is most known for is her amazing burgers (\$2 single, \$3 double, \$4 for the massive triple). These burgers are things of beauty: a hand-formed patty on a moist bun, with all of the fixin's (red-ripe tomatoes, even in January!). The chicken and sausage gumbo (four sizes, priced from cheapest to cheap) is loaded with chicken, complex and smoky, and not overwhelmed by the dark roux (as faux Cajun gumbos often are). Folks next to me were raving about their pork chop sandwich.



JOHN ANDERSON

Lola Stephens

The fried fish, available as a huge side (\$3), sandwich (\$4.99), or dinner (\$6.95) is some of the best catfish I've ever had. The crust is spiced but not piquant, not too heavy, and done to a golden-brown. The interior is moist and cooked to the perfect point. The shrimp étouffée (\$6.95, that day's special) is outstanding: a creamy, spiced, cooked-down sauce loaded with moist and tender shrimp, served over white rice. It's comes with "mixed vegetables," which are more like a thick vegetable stew. The menu also lists barbecue, "but I haven't been able to add it yet. I'll do it when I pull outta this struggle."

The restaurant is closed on Sundays, when Stephens feeds local homeless in the cafe's back yard for free. She has organized several benefits for the displaced New Orleanians here in town, and has volunteered and cooked for them at the shelter. She's a firm believer in Luke 6:38, which reads, "Give and it will be given to you." Stephens feels she's blessed to have her cafe open, but trust us: Austin diners are the ones who are blessed.

— Mick Vann

CHANTILLY BAKERY CAFE

4032 S. Lamar #200, 916-0404

Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm; Saturday, 9:30am-4pm

Your business associates or book club or girlfriends are planning a day-time get-together in South Austin. You'd like to go someplace pleasant and affordable with interesting sandwiches made on fresh bread, creative salads, and tempting pastries and desserts. North of the river, you'd have plenty of choices, but these folks all live South and Southwest, so you're seeking a bakery cafe option in that area. Irwan and Sandra Ojong have solved your problem.

The Ojongs are natives of Indonesia, where Sandra grew up in a family bakery. While she and Irwan were living in San Francisco, Sandra completed a baking and pastry program at the California Culinary Academy with the dream of one day owning her own bakery. In order to realize Sandra's dream, the Ojongs decided to leave California's crowded cities and skyrocketing real estate prices behind. They relocated to Austin after visiting here in the spring of 2004. Chantilly Bakery Cafe opened in mid-2005 with Sandra running the kitchen and Irwan greeting customers at the counter. The fine food and inviting atmosphere are attracting a steadily growing clientele — turns out a full-service bakery cafe is just what this area of town needed.

Mornings at Chantilly begin with coffee or a choice of hot teas to pair with an assortment of breakfast pastries such as plain, sweet, and savory croissants; cinnamon rolls and twists; kolaches; and sweet breads. By late morning, the crowd gives over to folks hungry for lunch, and the sandwich selection here is very pleasing: We've enjoyed several. The Italian Twist (\$5.95) offers salami, mortadella, spicy Capicola, and provolone dressed with a tangy olive salad on fresh focaccia. A half-sandwich paired with a hearty cup of Wild Rice and Ham Soup (\$5.95) made a delightful lunch and left room and money enough for dessert. The BLT (\$5.95) here is packed with crisp bacon, fresh leaf lettuce, and Roma tomatoes on honey wheat bread, while the Spicy Turkey (\$5.95) comes on a split tiger roll with melted cheddar cheese and a zippy cranberry chutney. Both are worthy choices. The menu even offers grilled cheese or PB&J for kids (\$2.95), and we spied some attractive salads in the case, though I've yet to try them. Everything we did try was fresh, attractive, and prepared with care. Staff members we dealt with were friendly, eager to make suggestions, and proud of the foods they're serving.

It's difficult to stand at the Chantilly counter and resist Sandra's pastries and desserts. The case is filled with both fruit and cream pies, a selection of layer cakes (whole \$25, or \$2.95 by the slice), several varieties of bar cookies, chocolate eclairs, and an innovative take on tiramisu in a cup. Bags of small cookies and candies adorn the countertop — I'm now addicted to the Almond Brittle (\$2.95) — and, if that weren't enough, there are eight flavors of homemade gelatos and sorbetos waiting to ensnare you! Irwan says they change flavors with the seasons: pumpkin in the fall, peppermint during the holidays, etc. We sampled both the pistachio (\$2.95, small) and the Butterfinger (another of my guilty pleasures) and found them to be voluptuously rich. I don't live close enough to Chantilly Bakery Cafe to eat there frequently, but I'm sure it will become a regular stop anytime I'm in the neighborhood.

— Virginia B. Wood

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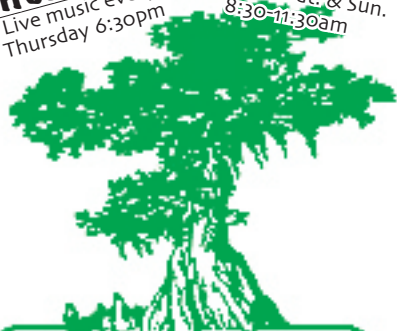
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EAST

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CAJUN/CREOLE: NUBIAN QUEEN LOLA'S CAJUN KITCHEN A proprietress as friendly as her food is good is serving up fantastic fried fish, crawfish étouffée, red beans and rice, and more. 1815 Rosewood, 542-9269 \$

CAJUN/CREOLE: PAPPADUAUX Items here include po'boys, dinner plates, and combos with shrimp, oysters, and crab. Order the fish fried, blackened, or charbroiled with a variety of side dishes. 6319 N. I-35, 452-9363 \$\$\$

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LAKE

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NORTH

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SOUTHWESTERN: IRON CACTUS NORTH In addition to stacked enchiladas, the extensive menu offers hearty steak, chicken, and shrimp dishes treated with combinations of Southwestern and Interior-Mexican spices. 10001 Stonelake Blvd., 794-8778 \$\$

ITALIAN: ITALIAN GARDEN RESTAURANT From the bowl of crostons on every table to the delicate herbal house dressing, they specialize in hearty southern Italian, "Brooklyn-style" fare. 14611 FM 1325, 388-1062 \$\$

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: JASON'S DELI The sandwich selection ranges from traditional deli to wraps and pita pockets, plus there are special menu sections dedicated to heart-healthy and kids' choices. 10225 Research #1010, 345-9586 \$

AMERICAN CAFE: JIM'S RESTAURANT Breakfast fare includes most of the standards, along with decent tacos. For lunch or dinner, try the chili burger with fries or the chicken-fried steak plate. 9091 Research, 837-1119 \$\$

AMERICAN CAFE: KERBEY LANE NORTH Famously fabulous breakfast, lunch, and dinner, and a favorite of the late-night set. 12602 Research, 258-7757 \$\$

KOREAN: KOREANA GRILL & SUSHI BAR Very reasonable lunch specials highlight this pretty restaurant. The Koreana lunch features a California roll and inari sushi (fried tofu stuffed with tuna, corn, carrots, and beef). 12196 MoPac N., 835-8888 \$\$\$\$

VIETNAMESE: PHO CONG LY This location has quickly become a staple for quick, cheap, and tasty meals. Where else can you slurp down a bowl of pho and listen to ABBA? 8557 Research, 832-5595 \$

ITALIAN: ROMANO'S MACARONI GRILL Always consistent and usually crowded, this eclectic Italian restaurant chain offers plenty of pastas and a lively atmosphere. This restaurant is also particularly kid-friendly. 9828 Great Hills Trail, 795-0460 \$\$

BARBECUE: RUDY'S COUNTRY STORE & BAR-B-Q Good-quality smoked meats are available by the pound, along with all the light bread, pickles, onions, and peppers you need. 11570 Research, 418-9898 \$

VIETNAMESE: SAGIANG They specialize in over-the-top, tasty grilled beef, chicken, pork, and shrimp skewers, but they also have great spring rolls and excellent bun and pho. 12636 Research Blvd., 250-8400 \$\$

continued on p.44

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food :: RESTAURANT ROULETTE :: FROM P.42

ITALIAN: VENICE CAFE & ITALIAN GRILL Return-patrons crave the crawfish linguini; others go back for the shrimp scampi, lobster ravioli, and daily risotto specials. 907 FM 685, 989-8833 \$\$

NORTH CENTRAL

MIDDLE EASTERN: ARARAT This popular temple of Middle Eastern cuisine oozes with atmosphere that is midway between a yurt and a Hollywood film set. 111 E. North Loop, 419-1692 \$\$

TEX-MEX: EL POLLO FELIZ Tender, juicy rotisserie chickens by the plate, whole bird, or party pack paired with reliable side dishes will make your wallet happy. 6801 Airport, 323-6604 \$

ITALIAN: FLYING TOMATO PIZZA KITCHEN Offers pizza lovers more than 40 ingredients for mixing and matching to make the perfect pizza. They have some excellent combinations already picked out. 1600 W. 35th, 419-1900 \$\$

TAKEOUT, TEX-MEX: FREEBIRDS WORLD BURRITO Fresh ingredients; a fun, casual atmosphere; and their patented "Bad Ass BBQ Sauce" make this place a must-try. Plan early for the lunch hour, when lines are out the door. 1000 E. 41st, 451-5514 \$

VIETNAMESE: LE SOLEIL One of the original Sunflower folks brings us a similar menu with a few new tweaks. Bottom line: It's good and dependable, and it's a fave of Viet families. 9616 N. Lamar, 821-0396 \$\$

PIZZA: THE PARLOR Fine pizza, flowing pitchers, and a punk feel come together amid the strains of a stellar jukebox. 100-B E. North Loop, 454-8965 \$\$

BARBECUE: POK-E-JO'S SMOKEHOUSE The newest location of this Fifth Street favorite has the same great grub. Don't miss the desserts. 1000 E. 41st, 302-1200 \$

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: QUACK'S 43RD STREET BAKERY Carrying on the tradition of slacker-era Austin, it is a great place to luxuriate over coffee and a muffin. 411 E. 43rd, 453-3399 \$

SOUTH

CAJUN/CREOLE: THE OLD ALLIGATOR GRILL Built to please with its Cajun-style specialties, generous happy hours, and Real Gator Meat. Plus, no cover charge for live blues. 3003 S. Lamar, 444-6117 \$\$

BURGER JOINT: P. TERRY'S BURGER STAND Find burgers fashioned from hormone- and antibiotic-free Harris Ranch beef, grilled chicken (Buddy's), fresh-cut fries, and milk shakes. Sit at a picnic table on the patio. 404 S. Lamar, 473-2217 \$

FINE DINING: PAGGI HOUSE This restored and revamped favorite caters to the young and hip with unique cocktails, small portions of New American dishes, and casual atmosphere. Check out the patio and decks. 200 Lee Barton Dr., 499-8835 \$\$\$

BURGER JOINT: SANDY'S FROZEN CUSTARD & ROOT BEER The cool relief of a chocolate-vanilla swirl cone, the old neon sign, not to mention the sinful smell of decades of sublimely greasy burgers transport us back in time. 603 Barton Springs Rd., 478-6322 \$

KOREAN: SEOUL RESTAURANT & D.K.'S SUSHI BAR Blending sushi with Korean and Japanese standards, they have developed a loyal following of South Austin regulars over many years. 6400-C S. First, 326-5807 \$\$

JAPANESE: SHOGUN Specialties of the house include sukiyaki, tempura, teriyaki, teppanyaki, udon, and soba. The menu also features some interesting salads. 1807 Slaughter #225, 292-1580 \$\$

CHINESE: SUZI'S CHINESE KITCHEN Normally priced Chinese food that manages to surpass the mundane, sometimes by a good bit. Vegetarians: Try the eggplant in garlic sauce, but make sure you specify "without pork." 1152 S. Lamar, 441-8400 \$\$

BARBECUE: TED & GARRY'S BAR-B-Q Try the chicken-fried steak if you're not in the mood for fantastic barbecue. Either way, you can pick up family-sized side orders for a crowd. They have also expanded the breakfast menu. 1815 W. Ben White, 326-9328 \$

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: TEXAS FRENCH BREAD Still the perfect place for a scone, pastry, and cup of coffee. The sandwich menu offers light lunch fare, and, of course, it's a great place for breakfast. 1722 S. Congress, 440-1122 \$

AMERICAN CAFE: TEXICALLI GRILLE Dr Pepper with real cane sugar, and they brew their own root beer! The queso fries are highly recommended, but sweet potato fries are also available. 534 E. Oltorf, 442-2799 \$

SOUTHWESTERN, TEX-MEX: TEXICAN CAFE This popular venue specializes in El Paso-style variations like stacked Santa Fe enchiladas. Excellent margaritas and Dos XX on tap. 11940 Manchaca Rd., 282-9094 \$\$

THAI: THAI KITCHEN This family of restaurants remains a perennial favorite among Thai-food lovers. Try this suburban location and you won't be disappointed. 801 E. William Cannon, 445-4844 \$\$

SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Just a shout away from the former Armadillo World Headquarters; there are several music and food combos on the menu here including a gospel brunch on Sundays. 301 W. Riverside, 472-9304 \$\$

JAPANESE: UMI SUSHI One of the top sushi restaurants in Austin. An aggressive menu with a sizable selection of nigiri. Chronicle Restaurant Poll Critics Pick for Best Sushi 2003. 5510 S. I-35 #400, 383-8806 \$\$

SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: THE WAREHOUSE SALOON The buffet on Tuesdays and Fridays offers a wide variety of main courses and sides. Play pool, watch sports, and enjoy moderately priced drinks. 509 E. Ben White, 443-8799 \$\$

UT

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: NAU'S PHARMACY A traditional, old-fashioned, mom-and-pop drug store, with soda fountain/diner, office supplies, and a decent selection of cards and gifts. Not many of these places left. 2406 San Gabriel, 476-1544 \$

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: PLAYERS These fry-bos will outfit you with the tastiest of grub on the go. Burgers do go with that shake. 300 W. MLK, 478-9299 \$\$

AMERICAN CAFE: RED RIVER CAFE Tucked away on Medical Arts (not on Red River, as the name suggests), this popular spot offers tasty omelets, burgers, and weekend brunch specials. 2912 Medical Arts, 472-0385 \$\$

BURGER JOINT: ROCKETS Burgers, chicken sandwiches, and "planet-sized spuds." They claim it's their burgers you see in fast-food commercials. 118 W. Fifth, 482-0621 \$

BARBECUE: RUBY'S BBQ The only barbecue joint in town serving hormone-free beef, Ruby's is a favorite among blues artists and rib lovers alike. 512 W. 29th, 477-1651 \$

CHINESE: SUN HING CHINESE RESTAURANT Kung Pao, General Tso, and other Chinese standbys served up fresh and inexpensively. 2801 Guadalupe, 478-6504 \$\$

THAI: THAI NOODLES ETC. HOUSE A good selection of Thai street foods, including Thai noodle soups, dry noodle bowls, and stir-fry noodles. 2602 Guadalupe, 494-1011 \$

MIDDLE EASTERN: TOM'S TABOOLEY The kitchen offers tabbouleh, dolmas, baklava, gourmet coffee, and lots of surprising tidbits for lunch and dinner. Pick up some brined grape leaves to cook with at home. 2928 Guadalupe, 479-7337 \$

VEGETARIAN/VEGAN: VEGGIE HEAVEN The menu is heavy on Asian dishes but also offers meat- and dairy-free pastas, sandwiches, and desserts. 1914-A Guadalupe, 457-1013 \$

WEST

AMERICAN CAFE: CAFE BISTRO AT NORDSTROM The most elegant food at the mall, with a menu strong on ladies-who-lunch fare. Salads and sandwiches are exceptional, but more substantial offerings are there for the asking. Barton Creek Square, 2901 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 691-3500 \$\$

TEX-MEX: CHUY'S NORTH Hubcaps, colored lights, and a Velvet Elvis; this is Austin-style Tex-Mex at its tacky, funky best. Almost always busy. 11680 Research, 342-0011 \$\$

INTERIOR MEXICAN: CURRA'S GRILL The wizards whip up handmade corn tortillas while you sip margaritas. Don't miss the chile rellenos with pecan cream sauce, or for breakfast, the huevos machacado. 6801 Burnet Rd., 451-2560 \$\$

TEX-MEX: EL ARROYO The extensive menu at this longtime Austin favorite offers everything from breakfast tacos to late-night entrees. Don't miss the rollicking happy hour. 1624 W. Fifth, 474-1222 \$

TEX-MEX: EL MERCADO Dinner at this location of the popular Tex-Mex happy hour haven doesn't disappoint, especially after a few of the reliable Mexican martinis. 7414 Burnet, 454-2500 \$\$

TEX-MEX: ENCHILADAS Y MAS Hundreds of satisfied customers will testify that the chorizo migas are worth a drive across town. 1911 W. Anderson, 467-7100 \$

AMERICAN CAFE: EZ'S Although the hamburgers are very good, they also serve up a plethora of chicken dishes, from battered and fried tenders to oven-roasted rosemary chicken plates. 3918 N. Lamar, 302-1800 \$

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: FOOD! FOOD! With more than 20 varieties of sandwiches to choose from, lunch at this friendly neighborhood deli will always turn up something new and interesting. 2727 Exposition #112, 474-8515 \$\$

CAJUN/CREOLE: FREDA'S SEAFOOD GRILLE A challenging menu with often rewarding results. Start with the fried pickles and a cocktail or two from the superior spirits list. Live music and catering. 10903 Pecan Park, 506-8700 \$\$

BARBECUE: GREEN MESQUITE BBQ SOUTH Check out the Oak Hill outpost of this South Austin favorite. Exceptional barbecue at both locations. 7010 W. Hwy. 71, 288-8300 \$\$

AMERICAN CAFE: HANG TOWN GRILL Jetson-era family restaurant with gourmet pizzas and mesquite burgers for mom and dad, combo meals for kids. Outdoor patio. 701 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 347-1039 \$\$

INDIAN: INDIAN PALACE The buffet for Austex vegetarians who need a Punjab fix. With a menu also blessed with seafood, meats, and poultry for the carnivore crowd, food is right on. 3616 Far West, 241-1732 \$\$



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PUNK, PUPPETS, AND MANSON AS MESSIAH: JOHN ROECKER ON 'LIVE FREAKY! DIE FREAKY!'

After a grueling two years behind the camera, Los Angeles-based filmmaker John Roecker is finally unleashing *Live Freaky! Die Freaky!*, his jaw-droppingly outrageous feature debut, upon a public already up to its pinpoint pupils in black body-bag humor and anxiety. Expect mid-to-light shrieking followed by nervous but giddy laughter of the cathartic kind, with the possibility of exploding Pat Robertsons and sporadic questioning of authority figures. Just as planned.

But let's cut to the creepy crawl: *Live Freaky! Die Freaky!* is an animated musical comedy horror film about the Manson Family and their effect on our as-yet-unborn children's children's children. There are drugs and pain and sex and death throughout, not to mention enough scatological gore to gag both Eli Roth and Jim Van Bebber combined.

The characters are voiced by a good chunk of the Cali punk rock community, including all three members of Green Day, as well as Good Charlotte's Madden siblings, AFI's Davey Havoc, X's John Doe, and former Go-Go Jane Wiedlin. And, whoops, almost forgot, Asia Argento, daughter of Dario and onetime JT Leroy fan.

Wal-Mart has made it known that it will decline to stock Roecker's film, an honor despite itself and one that speaks volumes about Roecker's talents.

Roecker spoke to the *Chronicle* from his L.A. home during the afternoon after the morning after of the very long night before. "We had a premiere party last night and Rancid played with John Doe," the gravely filmmaker says, "and I really need to wake up, so, you know, sorry."

— Marc Savlov

Austin Chronicle: Why a claymation musical-comedy-nightmare about Charles Manson? Why now?

John Roecker: He's been the bogeyman for the longest time — since I was a kid — and there have been so many comparisons between him and Christ, you know? So, I just took it to the next step by saying, well, what if in the distant future [Vincent Bugliosi's book] *Helter Skelter* was rediscovered by people who had no idea who Charles Manson really was and who then come to view him as the messiah? I doubt the Bible is very accurate about the life of Christ, either. Manson's the man who's responsible for "killing the Sixties." He really knew how to play up the whole "most dangerous man alive" thing when at the time, the most dangerous man alive was Richard Nixon.



John Roecker



Jay Sebring and Sharon Tate, sort of

AC: That's not bad for a stop-motion feature that was repeatedly turned down or out by assorted film labs.

JR: Even when we signed with Wellspring, the people that manufacture their films wouldn't touch it. So, we had to go to a place that does porno, which I thought was really funny. It's no more of a porno film than *Pink Flamingos* is. If people don't think we're back in the 1950s, they're wrong.

AC: How has audience reaction been? Any bloodshed or gnashing of teeth?

JR: It's funny, because a lot of the kids who are there to see the film don't even know who Charlie Manson is. And I'm cool with that, because that's not the point of the movie. The point is for people to think for themselves. People who follow a leader and kill in their name — be it Charles Manson, L. Ron Hubbard, or Jesus Christ, or George Bush — well, to me that's pretty sickening. Stop killing for this thing that may or may not exist.

Live Freaky! Die Freaky! screens at the Alamo Drafthouse Downtown at mid-night tonight, Friday, Jan. 27, and Saturday, Jan. 28. For admission information, see www.originalalamo.com.

And Henry Kissinger. Why he's not in jail I'll never know.

AC: So, then, why animation?

JR: I always wanted to make this look more like a children's film, like the old Rankin/Bass holiday shows I grew up with. I'd always envisioned it like that and, plus, there was no way I was going to have my friends, you know, have sex and do those naughty things in front of me. The puppets worked out pretty fine. They didn't bitch when they had to work overtime.

FILM NEWS

BY JOE O'CONNELL

MEET THE NEW BOSS

He's not the same as the old boss, but **Bob Hudgins** was recently retired **Tom Copeland's** top choice to take the reins of the Texas Film Commission. Hudgins, a Wichita Falls native, is the former deputy director of the Illinois Film Commission and an experienced locations scout. He worked locations on Austin-shot *Michael* in 1996 and got to know Copeland. Of particular interest to Lone Star film folk is Hudgins' key role in creating a program of financial incentives for projects shooting in Illinois. The Texas Legislature approved such a program last year but without the funds to back it up. He's already been meeting with the different city film commissions around the state with an eye toward the 2007 legislative session and is urging film workers to establish strong communication with their representatives. "Farmers and ranchers have their issues, and we have our issues," he says. "We need to let those things be known."

CORPORATE ROCK STILL SUX

Andrew Shapter's documentary *Before the Music Dies* has taken a turn to the comedic, while still aptly highlighting the excesses of the corporate music world. Shapter credits Erykah Badu and her sense of humor for the change, which includes the creation of a generic pop star (à la Ashlee Simpson) from scratch. Badu also steered Shapter to a major soundtrack deal that will include Badu, Bonnie Raitt, the Roots, Dave Matthews, Caexico, and others. Look for the film to premiere at SXSW Film 06, and check out the progress on Shapter's blog at www.beforethemusicdies.com. Next up for Shapter is *The Greener Side*, a doc about the pursuit of happiness that will take him to Mongolia and Sardinia.

LOONY FOR LUNAFEST

The national touring fest of short films by, for, and about women, aka **Lunafest**, comes to the Alamo Drafthouse Downtown at 1pm on Sunday in an event sponsored by Reel Women and the makers of Luna nutrition bars. The eight winning films showing were culled from more than 200 entries. Special guest is **Suju Vijayan**, who has written, directed and produced programs for Fox, A&E, Lifetime, MSNBC, Discovery, the History Channel, HGTV, and the Food Network. Her short, "Blessing," is part of the fest. Admission is \$10; tickets may be purchased at www.originalalamo.com.



BLACK GOLD, TEXAS TEA

Marfa is a likely filming spot for *There Will Be Blood*, a period piece based on Upton Sinclair's novel *Oil!*, which drew heavily on industry scandals during the Warren G. Harding administration but could be drawn from today's headlines. **Paul Thomas Anderson** is set to direct, with **Daniel Day-Lewis** starring. Do I sense **Richard Linklater's** hand in this one as well? His frequent cohort (and industry powerhouse) **Scott Rudin** is executive producing along with **Eric Schlosser**, whose book *Fast Food Nation* became a recently lensed Linklater feature. Look for a May shoot with some filming also possible in New Mexico.

AND THE REST ...

Kudos to Whole Foods, Cool River Cafe, Scholz's Biergarten, People's Community Clinic, Vineyard Christian Fellowship, and Pinky's Wireless, who all donated locations for the ultra-low-budget *Wake Up, Herbert*, a first film from writer/director **Steve Cauley** that wraps this month... The **Austin Film Festival's** fourth annual Oscar Party is March 5 at Ranch 616 with great food and a silent auction on the bill. Tickets are \$90 and available at 478-4795... The second most famous horror film shot in Central Texas is being remade this spring. What? You don't remember 1978's *Piranha*, which was written very much with tongue in cheek by **John Sayles** and filmed mostly at Aquarena Springs in San Marcos? The remake is set at Arizona's Lake Havasu, so no gigs as extras are likely for bikini-clad coeds at the school forever known as Southwest Texas State.

Send tips to filmnews@austinchronicle.com.

DVD WATCH

SAM PECKINPAH'S LEGENDARY WESTERNS COLLECTION

Warner Home Video, \$59.95

Alfred Hitchcock might have treated his actors like cattle, but it took a demented iconoclast like Sam Peckinpah to actually pull a gun on them. Brilliant, mercurial, hard-drinking, violent, and by all accounts an impossible human being, he was arguably the greatest director of Westerns since John Ford.

Sam Peckinpah's Legendary Westerns Collection showcases four of his most celebrated films on six DVDs, tracking his evolution from cinematic traditionalist to postmodern radical. *Ride the High Country* (1962) was Peckinpah's most accessible oater; even audiences who detest his work are impressed with it. As aging ex-lawmen reunited to guard a gold shipment, Joel McCrea and Randolph Scott give the performances of their careers, laying a foundation for the



themes that would define Peckinpah's best work: loyalty, betrayal, and a nostalgia for the passing of an era. 1969's *The Wild Bunch* blew the traditional Western formula apart like a keg of nitroglycerin and then reassembled the debris, influencing every Western that followed. Both damned and praised at the time of its release for its unprecedented graphic violence and unflinching pessimism, its notoriety obscured its romanticism and revolutionary editing.

Pat Garrett and Billy the Kid is at once Peckinpah's most fascinating and troubled film, a "languorous dirge, a drifting death-poem" made during a tempestuous period in the director's life. Following

the success of *Wild Bunch*, Peckinpah found himself celebrated by the counter-culture and critics alike, but was battling alcoholism, illness, studio interference, and a bad reputation. MGM took his cut and sawed it down to the bones in an attempt to duplicate his previous success, fatally scarring it. The set's inclusion of both the 1988 Turner reconstruction and a new version incorporating elements of the original theatrical release illustrates how the tiniest edit can make or break a director's vision. Rounding out the collection is 1970's *The Ballad of Cable Hogue*, an amiable but shambling comedy that proves — if nothing else — that Peckinpah should never have attempted a musical duet between Jason Robards and Stella Stevens.

Each film is splendidly remastered and features enlightening commentaries and extras. Peckinpah may have been prone to shoot himself (and anyone else foolish enough to be near him) in the foot, but when he did, it was bloody, visceral, and entertaining. — Steve Uhler



David Kaelin

JOHN ANDERSON

Runnin' With the Wolf

One man takes on the used-game business model

BY JAMES RENOVITCH

Evoking an island of misfit toys, Game Over Videogames lingers on the north edge of Austin waiting to take in unloved video games, instill in them a feeling of self-worth, and sell them to loving families. Who is spearheading this Mother Teresa-like enterprise? One man: David Kaelin.

"As the owner/manager/cashier/janitor/everything, it takes a big chunk of my time," Kaelin admits. Time is a nonissue though, as Game Over is an experiment in unbridled nostalgia. If you don't say "I played that" at least five times while browsing, you were born either before 1960 or after 1990. But, even for you newbies, this place could be a godsend. Knowing these games is like knowing Grandmaster Flash instead of Jay-Z: It gives you cred (not to be confused with street cred in this case). "I buy anything and everything," Kaelin says. "Ataris, Intellivisions. I've had Pong machines come through here. We get all sorts of random, old stuff that people don't have any other place to take it to."

But nostalgia doesn't pay the bills. How is Kaelin going to fend off the vultures that circle over every new local business? The overhead is low (thank you, northern location and one-employee payroll), but a store needs income, and Kaelin's claim that November was a "hell of a month" for sales seemed like warm and fuzzy math. "You know what, for the 100 dollars I was gonna spend on a couple Xbox games, I can get a Nintendo and 20 games that I love, and it'll be a lot more fun then those two

games that I'm gonna finish in a week and trade in for nothing," says Kaelin, speaking from the mind of would-be clientele.

We're no ordinary clientele, however, we're Austinites, and we've got unique criteria for a successful business. Kaelin's called Austin home since second grade, taking the scenic route to a Texas State business degree in 2003. Soon after, Kaelin put his knowledge to work. "I pretty much took a regular video-game-store business plan and did the opposite," he recalls. "We have aisles and aisles of old stuff and a tiny bit of new stuff, and [corporate video-game stores] have 500 copies of *Halo 2*, but if you ask for a Super Nintendo game, they're gonna ask you, 'What is that?'" Keeping it weird and sticking it to the man: Perhaps Kaelin's on to something.

Game Over's location might be the only serious flaw. The corner of Anderson and Lamar is about as conducive to foot traffic as I-35. To get people in the door, Kaelin has fashioned what he calls a "Seventies Lounge," though it may be a stretch to call the fluorescent-lit couch/TV/bar combo a lounge. And, while free Atari and a crappy cushion sound mighty fine, bumping things up to a well-attended Atari tournament seals the deal. Kaelin promises it's on the horizon. Until then, being a little lone wolf in a big business keeps a man busy. ■

Kaelin lives at Game Over Videogames (911 W. Anderson) Monday-Saturday, 10am-7pm, and resides virtually at www.gameovervideogames.com.

MARIO SUPERSTAR BASEBALL

Nintendo, \$49.99

Mario and Luigi (Italian plumbers), Yoshi (laconic dragon), Peach (princess), and many of their dearest friends have all bravely accepted Bowser's (terrifying megalomaniacal turtle) invitation to compete in *Mario Superstar Baseball*. Take control of an elite cadre of players, but be warned: This tournament is more than mere baseball. In addition to navigating outfields fraught with carnivorous plants, sandstorm generators, and biting Klaptraps, your team will play several minigames with names like "Piranha Panic." Use your skills to accumulate coins, buy exotic equipment, and decimate your rivals. Each defeated rival becomes a new, powerful ally, making you (in time) an unstoppable force of fireball pitches, outstretched-tongue left-field grabs, and giant-gorilla homerun punches.

One quickly notices similarities to the popular *Mario Party* series, but it's important to note that these play-



ful elements don't interfere with what makes traditional video-game baseball enjoyable. The gameplay revolves around charging up your swings and pitches by holding down the A button and then cunningly releasing the button at the right moment, which feels natural. What feels unnatural is the fact that your base runners never tag up when your hitter flies out unless you hit the right button at the right time, which you won't do

without practicing a lot. Consequently, your opponents turn an improbable number of triple plays, leading to much hair-pulling. It's a surmountable gaffe in gameplay, but it makes the learning curve that much steeper. In turn, this game, while targeting a younger audience, offers much to adults seeking the sort of whimsy they've grown up expecting from Nintendo. Still, you can expect to dive for fly balls, time your swings for an opposite-field hit, and use a serious changeup to make batters look plain silly. — Tim Warden

CIVILIZATION IV

2K Games, \$49.99, PC

Sid Meier's *Civilization IV* puts the player in the role of Supreme Leader of one of 18 different civilizations from Stone Age to space age. It's a turn-based game that emphasizes strategy over reflexes; an extensive single-player game combined with vastly improved multiplayer options making for some serious replayability.

The game begins after you pick a civilization and start your first city. You're in charge of everything from guns to butter. Build a shiny new tank, or be responsible and start a university? One of the joys of the game is the sheer number of options you can pursue. If you're less detail oriented, however, the game features advisors that can sweat the small stuff. Can't decide whether to build a barracks or a granary? Assign the decision to your domestic advisor and take charge of



the looting and pillaging. There's some tedium involved later in the game when you have tons of cities, but the micromanaging is greatly reduced from *Civ III*.

The worlds you explore are alive and vibrant thanks to a spanking new 3-D engine. Everything from rivers and windmills to the deaths of your little pixel foot soldiers is beautifully animated. The sound effects keep up, though I wouldn't miss the world music background that seems

ubiquitous with every installment of *Civilization*.

The real fireworks start when you begin running into surrounding civilizations. War is hell, but it's fun and profitable too. Sick of Augustus not sharing his resources? Take 'em! You can also win by diplomatic, scientific, or cultural achievements if you're more Gandhi than Genghis. It's (almost) as gratifying to win by smooth-talkin' as by putting your enemies to the sword. — Jeb Callan

PLAYER'S GUIDE

BY JAMES RENOVITCH

Anyone else still let down by Mayor **Will Wynn**'s speech at the Austin Game Conference party at City Hall? Sticking out in a suit (on his way to the swankier Texas Book Festival no doubt), Wynn barely even bothered to insert the words "video games" into his stock "Austin Arts" speech but managed to say "creative capital" at least twice. Then again, most mayors wouldn't be caught dead at a party where a love song to Ms. Pac-Man was sung.

At the Interactive Achievement Awards on Feb. 9, local gaming god **Richard** "Lord British" **Garriott** becomes the ninth inductee into the Academy of Interactive Arts & Sciences Hall of Fame. He joins the likes of *Civilization* creator **Sid Meier** and the creative mind behind Nintendo, **Shigeru Miyamoto**. More on this honor in the future, if SXSW isn't completely dominating the press by then.

For those who still remember the music that accompanied the Bombman level of *Mega Man*, there's Sacramento, Calif., band the **Advantage**. Doing nothing but instrumental Nintendo covers, their second album, *Elf-Titled*, was recently released on 5RC records. Songs like "Contra – Alien's Lair & Boss Music" transport you back in time while their prog stylings melt your face. Not that more info is necessary but: www.theadvantageband.com.

Dear Rockstar Games, Despite the rumors that **Grand Theft Auto 4** will be set in Europe, allow me this recommendation. Perhaps the iconic Dallas of the 1970s/80s might be more entertaining. Big hair and oil tycoons – you know, *Dallas*-era Dallas. Call me, we'll talk.





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TV EYE

How the Boys Are

BY BELINDA ACOSTA

Love Monkey.

Such a cute title for a series that has little to do with love (or monkeys, for that matter), even if it is the newest *Sex and the City* knockoff. Actually, the show, which premiered on CBS last week, is based on the 2004 book by Kyle Smith, which itself could be considered a knockoff of Nick Hornby's *High Fidelity*, later made into the 2000 film starring the sublime John Cusack. But none of that really matters when it comes to prime time. The real question is, can *Love Monkey* reinvent the kaboom of *Sex and the City*? From a viewer's perspective, I've got to ask: Why try?

Meanwhile, the recently premiered *Four Kings* (NBC), another *Sex* wannabe, only survives because of its sweet spot in NBC's Thursday-night lineup. *Emily's Reasons Why Not* (starring **Heather Graham**) premiered to ear-splitting fanfare, only to be trashed after one episode. It's just as well. Graham's twinkly-eyed Emily Sanders was not as interesting as her supporting cast.

And then there's the ill-fated **John Stamos** series, *Jake in Progress*. Placed on hiatus after a handful of episodes, it returned (also on ABC) only to be shuttled into oblivion with Graham's vehicle. And now, we have *Love Monkey*, which I'm convinced will survive because of its berth and the pull of **Tom Cavanagh**.

Love Monkey features a quartet of men: one married, one a man-about-town, one a jock, and one **Tom Farrell** (Cavanagh). I didn't care much for Cavanagh in the too-precious *Ed*, but here, I find him engaging, if not entirely likable. He's not "evil" in the way men supposedly are. He just doesn't make sense to me.

His tortured male brethren **Rob Gordon** (*High Fidelity*) made sense to me, so I don't think it's a gender thing.

Like Carrie Bradshaw, Tom Ferrell has a cool job: He's in the music industry, scouting new talent. He's young, unattached, and looking. Or so he says. With such an active and interesting work life, why settle down? If he wants companionship and unconditional love, he could get a dog. If he wants hot sex, well, gee, some might say a marriage is the last place to find that.

Although I found the premiere episode compelling, I couldn't help but feel as if I

were waiting for the real Tom Farrell to appear, which, I also suppose, is the purpose of any good series, to watch a character develop and grow — assuming *Love Monkey* doesn't join *Jake* or *Emily's Reasons* in the dustbin.

What makes *Love Monkey* interesting for me is how the quartet performs for one another. For me, this speaks to a key feature in U.S. culture, wherein men are expected to behave in such a way even among their closest friends. Now, I know I'm casting a wide swath here, but among women, and especially the *Sex and the City* women, it was the coming together of the group that provided the opportunity

Larenz Tate plays Shooter Cooper, who is, well, he's the black guy. In the first episode, Shooter comes up with the term "Grant's Law," named for Hugh Grant: No matter how good a man has it, the grass is always greener, which, from all indications, is supposed to be crucial in understanding men in this show.

And Tom is still charming enough to have the affection of gal pal Bran (*Arrested Development*'s **Judy Greer**), who apparently loves him but is too scared to tell him for fear of ... what, I'm not sure. Curiously, I hope the show continues so I can find out. It airs Tuesdays at 9pm on CBS.

E-mail Belinda Acosta at tveye@austinchronicle.com



to be a more candid version of themselves. In *Love Monkey*, **Jason Priestly**, as Tom's brother-in-law Mike, pines for the single life. Later, in a warm and fuzzy montage, we learn that he loves his pregnant wife and (gasp!) enjoys cuddling. Jake Dunne (**Christopher Wiehl**), the ex-jock turned sports writer, apparently can have any woman he wants. The thing is, in the same aforementioned warm and fuzzy montage, we (not his friends) discover that he likes men — one man in particular, if the dozen roses are any indication.

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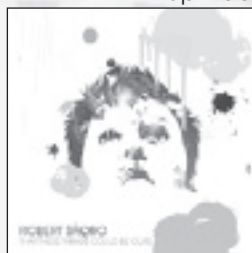
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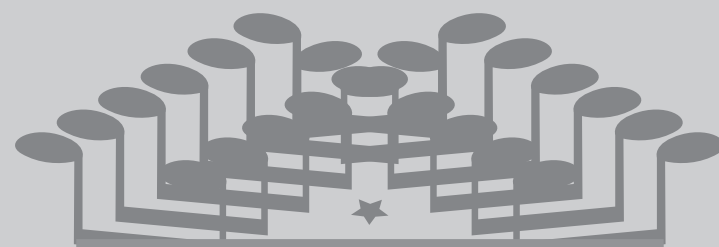
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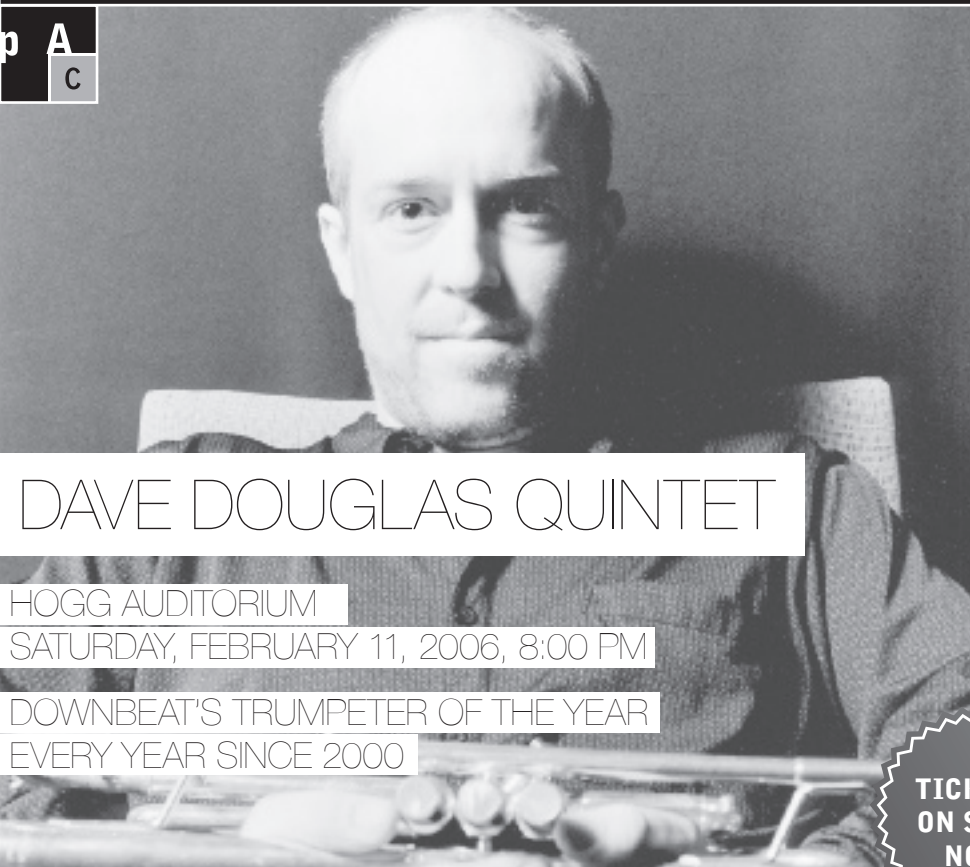


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JOHN ANDERSON

BY HOOK OR BY CROOKS

Not long ago, former **Steamboat** owner **Danny Crooks** was, quite literally, ready to die. "I got to where I didn't think I had another six months left on the planet," says Crooks, who was diagnosed with **hepatitis C** in 1998. "I kept getting sicker and sicker." Making matters worse, the treatment for hep C, a grueling regimen of pills and injections, is nearly as debilitating as the disease itself. "You feel like you've got the super-flu, where you're always tired, always sore, always sleepy," explains Crooks. He underwent months of treatment to no avail, continuing only at the urging of his wife, **Leslie**. Besides family support, Crooks figures he was able to withstand the treatment because of his prior experiences with a very different drug. "Luckily I did **LSD** in the Sixties, and no matter how messed up I was on acid, I could always tell myself, 'It's just a drug, you're gonna come down in eight hours or so,'" he chuckles. "That's kind of what I did with this stuff." Even on the second course, Crooks was within a month of ceasing treatment, when his doctor told him his **ALTs** – a measure of hep C's profusion – had dropped dramatically. "Then he told me, 'You need to stay on this stuff,'" Crooks says. "And after the 10th month, it was gone. There was no trace of the disease in my body." Saying he feels better than he has in 10 years, Crooks, who sold **Steamboat** for \$5,000 in October 2002, says he's already looking for a new nightclub, preferably on **Sixth Street**. "I want to get a place between the **Black Cat** and the old **Steamboat**," he says. "I'm starting over just like anybody doing it for the first time." Contact Crooks at ljcrooks@hotmail.com

BACKSLIDING

Austin is sending quite the delegation to the 2006 **Plug Independent Music Awards**, Feb. 2 at NYC's **Webster Hall**. **Erik Horn** and **Gates Bradley** of **Super!Alright!** media are directing the pageant and helming the video projector, assisted by **Darren Hoffman** and **Andy Smith**, as house photographer **Justin Cox** gets it all on film. **Team Fabrication** divas **Elfgirl Erin** and **JenRea** are outfitting the performers and nominees. Local interests up for awards include **Spoon**, **Okkervil River**, and both **SXSW** and the **Austin City Limits Music Festival**. Best of luck to all involved.

BROWN-EYED HANDSOME MEN

When **Chuck Berry** duckwalks across the **Paramount Theatre** stage Saturday night, his backing band will look familiar to Austinites, especially fans of **Banana Blender Surprise**. "I'm super pumped up," says BBS drummer **David Beebe**, who'll join fellow BBS founder **Allen Hill** on bass, and honorary member **Pete Gordon** on the Yamaha Grand, behind rock & roll's founding father. Berry's *modus operandi* has long been to recruit – rather, have the promoters recruit – sidemen from the local talent pool of wherever he plays, with the exact songs unknown until the opening bars. That stated, Beebe and friends have an advantage: they already backed Berry at Galveston's **Mardi Gras** in 1998. "He doesn't tell you what he's going to play, or what key it's in," says Beebe. "He just starts the song and you have to figure it out." Berry isn't much on small talk or other formalities offstage either, says Beebe. "He would drive himself to the gig in a **Lincoln** provided for him, with somebody following him," he says of the Galveston date. "It was him wearing a captain's hat, carrying one guitar, and he pulls up and proceeds to sit out in the car for 45 minutes until they cashed his check. Somebody tried to give him a check from the **Moody National Bank** and he's like, 'This isn't cash.' When they got him his money, he put it in his coat or pants or whatever, got out of the car, and walked straight onto the stage. We introduced him, and he plugged in and played."



NATHAN JENSEN

TEXM

Shortly after TCB became infatuated with **XM Radio**, he realized its 66 music channels feature an abundance of local and regional artists, and invented a fun little game: jump only from one Texas act to another, except when **U2** came on. Not counting Texans heard before and since – **Trail of Dead**, **Bill Hicks**, **Single Frame**, **Robert Earl Keen**, **Charlie Sexton**, **Pinetop Perkins**, and the **Yuppie Pricks**, whose *Brokers' Banquet* cracked punk channel **Fungus 53's** Top 20 albums of 2005 – here's the native log (with corresponding channel) from 2:30-4am last Friday:



Fastball (9, 54)
Waylon Jennings (10)
Michael Martin Murphey (10)
Ray Price (10, 13)
Pat Green (12)
Honeybrowne (12)
Doug Sahm (12)
Shaver (12)
Charley Pride (13)
Floyd Tillman (13)
Dale Watson (13)
Bob Wills (13)
Beyoncé/Slim Thug (20, 67)
Ashlee Simpson (20)
Destiny's Child (21)
Kelly Clarkson (22)
Texas Chain Saw Massacre (27)
Delbert McClinton (40)
Roy Orbison (40)
Steve Miller Band (46)
Spoon (43)
Blue October (47)
Rodney Crowell (50)
Chamillionaire (66)
Nelly/Paul Wall (66)
Jamie Foxx (67)
Willie Nelson (73)
Freddie King (74)
Gary Primich (74)
Steve Earle (75)

CLIMBING THE WALLS

With frontman **Mike Wiebe** again doing his best **Spider-Man** impression, the **Riverboat Gamblers** offered an explosive preview of their new **Volcom** album, as yet untitled and due in April, last Tuesday at **Emo's** to kick-start another week of first-class local shows. The **Arm** and **Crash Gallery's** opening post-punk diorama, the former torn and frayed, the latter sleek and seamless, was excellent. So was Thursday at **Stubb's**, where roots was the new indie: **Brothers & Sisters** butting **Bright Eyes** against the **Mamas & the Papas**; the **Black** conjuring the **Band**; and **Knife in the Water**, gone too long but meticulously paced and gorgeously forlorn (welcome back). Saturday, **Lomita** began the sold-out **Ghostland Observatory** CD release at the Ritz with a set both cavernous and intimate, before TCB hopped over to the **Parish for My Education's** intricate instrumental miasma and the **Black Angels'** decade-warping drone. Could 2006 turn out to be even more fertile than Austin's watershed 2005? It's early yet, but there was more quality in those 3½ shows than most cities see in a month.



JOHN ANDERSON

The **Alamo Downtown** screens **Make It Funky, Michael Murphy's** century-spanning 2005 study of **New Orleans** music, 7pm Wednesday. A \$27 ticket covers bowls of veggie chili and chicken-andouille gumbo from the **Soup Peddler**, but not dessert or beverages. Proceeds benefit the **New Orleans Musicians' Clinic**.

Welcome back **Winks**: Still *Too Hot to Be This Cool*, the local femme-fatale foursome's Saturday **Beerland** show is their first in nearly a year, and first with new drummer **Lisa Dirocco** (ex-**Kodiaks**). "It's weird to say, 'We're back,' because I feel like we never really went anywhere," says singer **Amanda Garrett**. "But I guess that's how people see it. That's fine." The **Ends**, **Titty Babies**, and **Near Miss** open.

R.I.P. **Wilson Pickett**. The **Midnight Mover** has moved on, 1941-2006.

Blind Item of the Week: Musicians, drummers especially, are hardly noted for their hygiene, an ancient stereotype proved true yet again last Thursday. Relays TCB's informant: When the opening act's stickman showed up early to a certain Sixth Street blues bar, his demeanor, appearance, odor, and "level of sobriety" made him unable to convince anyone at the club he was a musician and not "some cracked-out homeless person." When the rest of his band showed up, the resulting argument ended with the bar's owner taking a pizza in the face. There's probably an important lesson here, but TCB can't stop laughing long enough to figure out what it is.

The Lone Ranger

Lone Star songwriter of the spheres, Jerry Lynn Williams

BY BILL BENTLEY

*You say you want it and you want it bad
And that you'd sacrifice all you ever had
And that you'd be happy instead of sad
If it just wouldn't take you forever*

For more than 20 years, I've carried around a TDK SA60 cassette, keeping it in whatever car I drive, and when cars quit coming with cassette decks, I put it on my desk at Warner Bros. Records. It's dated 8/22/84, and at the top of the j-card is written "Shangri-La." There are nine songs on the tape, five on the first side and four on side two.

In so many ways, this tape has become my touchstone, a direct link to a musician who came to symbolize what modern music is capable of. It was recorded by just one person, who played all the instruments and sang the songs he wrote. Sometimes, when not much about the music business makes sense any more, I play the tape and listen to what one man's soul can send out. No matter what the lyrics address, every composition casts a strong spiritual presence.

Best rewind the clock a quarter century to tell the tale of this masked man of rock & roll and how he rode into my life on a white horse with 100 staggering songs.

The last track on side one is called "Forever." It's an anthem to everyone who ever pursued their dreams only to wonder why they took so long to come true. A week before Thanksgiving, I found one of those paper tattoos on the ground in front of my house, the kind you find at the bottom of a box of Cracker Jack. It's a red heart pierced by an arrow, the word "Forever" written across it. I put it inside the cassette case, figuring I'd finally found a cover for these homemade songs. It's a great title for these nine demos, capturing the timelessness at the heart of each one. The man whose name is written across the card spine, Jerry Williams, would have loved it.

Regretfully, I never got a chance to tell him. He died of liver failure three days after I found the tattoo, 57 years old and living as an expatriate on the island of St. Maarten in the Netherland Antilles. His death wasn't unexpected because Williams had been ill for several years, and it almost fit his renegade life and uncompromising character. What isn't right is that so few people have heard Jerry Williams' music of the spheres, or known the magical

power of his personality. For that story, it's best to rewind the clock a quarter century and tell the tale of this masked man of rock & roll and how he rode into my life on a white horse with 100 staggering songs.

*Would you sell your soul for the money
Would you give it all away
Guess you think it's funny
At least that's what you say*

*But one of these days now friend
It's gonna come your time
You're gonna get yours
And I'm for sure gonna get mine*

Clocking in around 6 feet 6 inches, Williams first appeared before me in person wearing a cape. Little did he know I'd been searching for him for several years. In 1979, an album titled simply *Gone* appeared, and after reading a review in New Orleans' weekly *Figaro*, which mentioned "Stax-like horns" on some of the songs, I knew it was something worth seeking. At that time, there weren't many albums with horns, much less ones compared to those from that storied Memphis recording studio. Once I found a copy of *Gone*, I was addicted. Here was a heart-beating amalgam of rock and soul, but so unique and modern that it was almost impossible to describe. Who was this wild man, and where did he come from? More importantly, why hadn't everyone heard of him already?

Back then, there wasn't really a way to find out. Williams wasn't mentioned in any books I could find, and even his new LP wasn't available any more. Every now and then, a 49-cent used copy showed up in the stores, but after only a few months on the shelves, *Gone* had gotten gonad. It was all a big mystery, so I went looking. The more I listened to his songs, the more obvious it became that true greatness lurked within, and that most likely, an intriguing story went with it.

The door opened a bit in '81 when Delbert McClinton had a Top 10 hit with a song on *Gone* called "Givin' It Up for Your Love," but in a way that only deepened the mystery. That's why when I found myself backstage at a Leon Russell concert in Los Angeles in 1984, and noticed a tall man in sunglasses standing peacefully alone in a corner, I somehow knew I'd found my guy. It's as if I'd gotten some telepathic message telling me *this* was the elusive Texan. I approached him.

"Are you Jerry Williams?"

He gave me a huge smile. "Sure am, how can I help you?"

I quickly explained my obsession with his '79 album and said I'd been looking for him for five years.

"Well, you found me," he said happily, and invited me out to Shangri-La, the Band's recording studio in Malibu where he just happened



to be living. Thus began a 21-year friendship with one of the most talented Texans to ever make music, not to mention a larger-than-life persona obvious to anyone who ever had the good fortune to spend more than five minutes in his presence. As Delbert McClinton once told me, to be around Williams you "better be well-rested."

□

Born in Dallas and raised in Fort Worth, Williams started playing professionally when he was barely a teenager, quitting school at 14 to start a band. In 1965 he went to see Little Richard perform, and after the show the rock & roll star offered Williams a place in his group.

"Richard needed another rhythm player," Williams recalled in a 1985 interview, "and when I joined I was the only white guy in the band. I had to lie about my age; I was 16 but said I was 21 because I had the street sense to pull it off. We took off for California on the train. Richard told his lead guitarist to take me in the bathroom with our Strats and teach me the songs.

"We had a little amp in there too and we wailed. The guitarist told me, 'Man, how'd

you know those things? You're white. You ain't supposed to be able to do that.' He taught me not to be afraid of the high strings, and also said if I'd teach him how to sing he'd teach me how to play lead. I said that's a deal. He was a monster player then, and when he changed his name from Jimmy James to Jimi Hendrix I knew he was going to be huge."

Eventually the underage Williams got sent home when the authorities discovered how young he was, but that didn't stop him from quickly putting together a 13-piece band called the Top Beats and touring around the Southwest. Married at 17 and soon a father, Williams found himself fronting a band at a local club called the Silver Helmet, run by several Dallas Cowboys.

By the time *Gone* came out on Warner Bros., Williams had already had a lot of high hopes and dashed dreams to experience. In the Sixties he'd been a member of High Country, which released an album on Atlantic, and upon going solo shortly thereafter, he found a guardian angel in producer David Briggs (soon to find fame working with Neil Young) and his Spindizzy imprint on CBS. The first LP

continued on p.56

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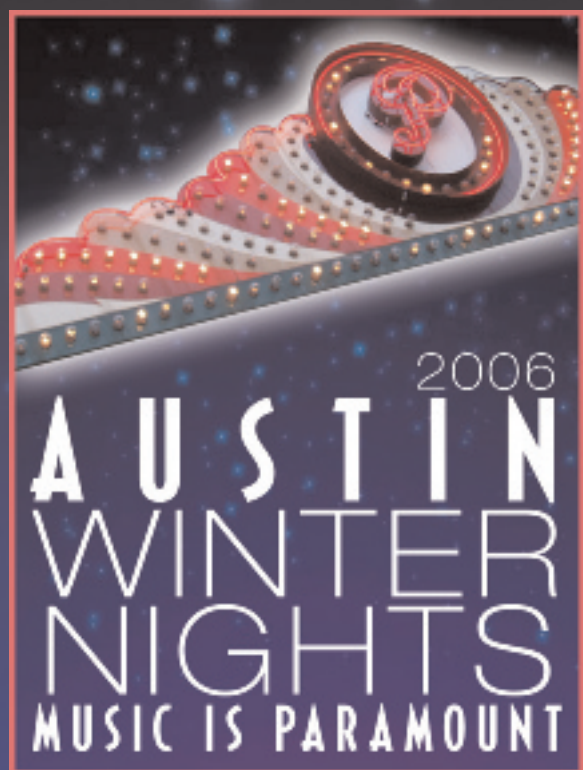
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came and went fairly fast, and while there were plenty of deep emotions and blazing style on it, the public never connected with either, no matter that label head Clive Davis had personally promised the singer that CBS would do whatever it took to break the album. As soon as Davis' well-documented troubles with the corporate brass started, a second album began to vaporize and Williams could see the writing on the wall.

"I was too young," he said. "I didn't know how to handle it, and they didn't know how to handle me. I walked out. I knew they were trying to mess with me, and I wasn't going to stand still for it."

From that early promise of his debut solo recording came the first in a series of career nosedives. After the album's appearance in 1971, Williams was back in Texas milking cows to pay the bills. "I milked 90 cows, seven days a week, twice a day. Once at 3am, and once at 3pm," he explained. "But I kept singing, trying to stay in practice."

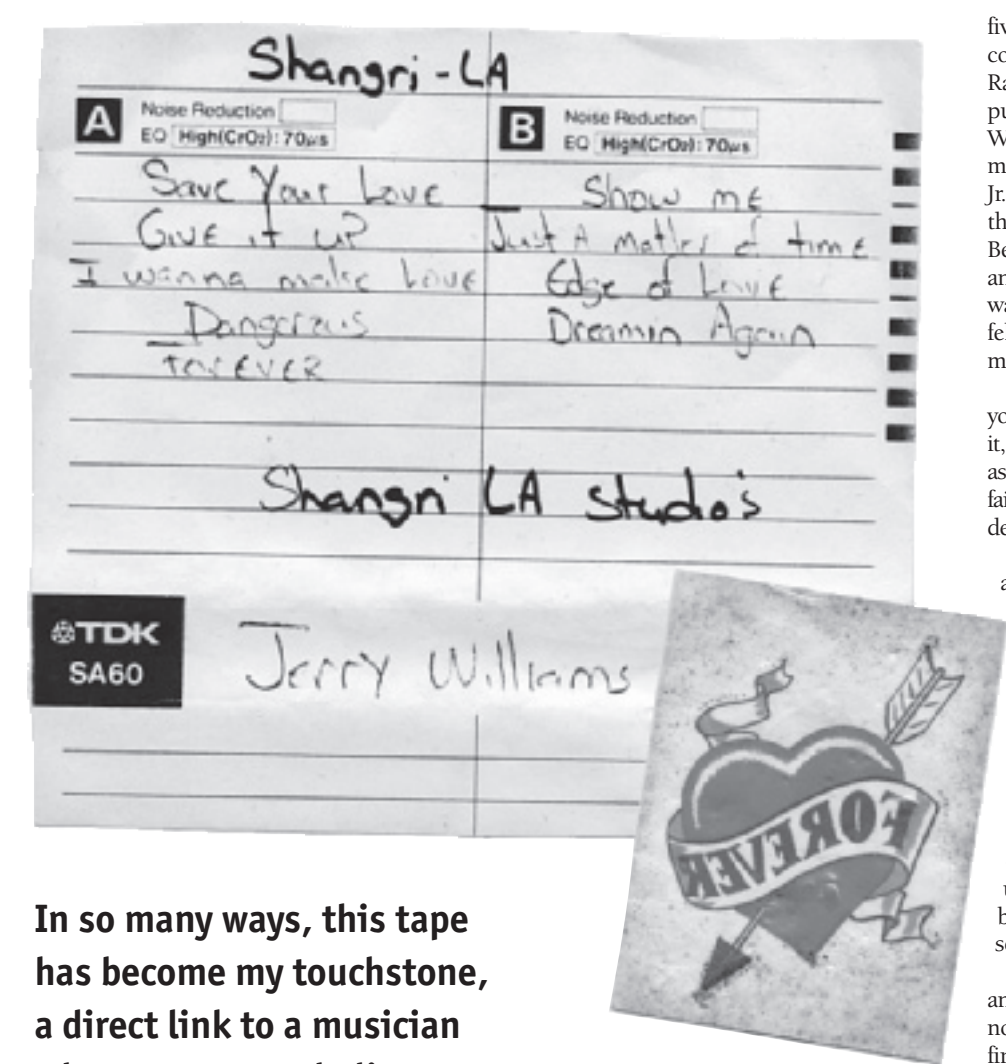
Following a few more years in limbo and the expiration of his CBS contract, Williams got back in the music game in '75, first performing with Dave Mason in L.A., and then making demos with Leon Russell at the Shelter Records studio in Tulsa. Those demos came to the attention of Warner Bros. Records president Lenny Waronker, and were strong enough to get Williams a new recording contract. For the *Gone* sessions, heavy hitters were enlisted, including producer Chris Kimsey, fresh from the success of engineering the Rolling Stones' recent *Some Girls* LP, along with Booker T. & the M.G.s' guitarist Steve Cropper and Wings' drummer Denny Seiwell. Even then, the album belonged completely to Jerry Williams.

"My music's coming from heaven," he told me on my first visit to Shangri-La. "I have so much faith in it I get cold chills. It's hard talking about it, but I know it's the truth. Writing a song is to stir the emotions, and if you touch one soul you touch the whole universe. I believe in it 1 million percent, and the happiness I feel, I want to give to other people."

Unfortunately, that happiness was seriously sidetracked after *Gone* was released in 1979, but to this day no one has fully explained why. Cropper has mentioned an irreconcilable rift between Williams and Warner Bros., one so serious that it almost broke into open warfare before each side tore the sheet and went their separate ways. There are stories of one of the musician's reps walking into the label's Burbank headquarters with a submachine gun, demanding more promotion muscle be put behind the album. This was immediately followed by a restraining order barring the artist and his management from the building.

Needless to say, no one wants to talk about it now, and for his part, Williams spent the rest of his life trying to heal the wound between himself and Warner Bros. Some of that must have worked, because only a few years after *Gone* was shelved, Lenny Waronker produced a majestic cover of Williams' "Forever Man" for Eric Clapton, resulting in one of the guitarist's biggest hits of the Eighties and more Williams songs finding their way onto more Clapton albums.

Around this time, the elusive Texan surfaced at a favorite Malibu club called Trancas. It was billed as his debut solo performance, promising



**In so many ways, this tape
has become my touchstone,
a direct link to a musician
who came to symbolize
what modern music is capable of.**

Mick Fleetwood on drums and several special guests. A full house showed up, but the special guests never quite materialized, except for the onstage appearance of adult actress Seka, lending her presence as a visual backdrop to the music. Williams tried reaching Fleetwood via a phone patched into the club's PA system, and when he called the drummer's home and surprised him, he got in some good jabs before letting him off the hook for the evening. That night, Williams performed accompanied only by his own piano.

Watching him play, it was obvious he was off in his own world, one ruled by the absolute definition of soul, where one's inner life is expressed entirely by music. Naturally, it was the only advertised Jerry Williams show in Los Angeles for the rest of the Eighties. An attempt to add him to a concert billed as Millions of Williams in '85, featuring Victoria Williams, Lucinda Williams, the Williams Brothers, and MC Marvin Williams got close, until the Texan said he didn't have time to assemble the 15-piece band he'd need to play a set.

The last onstage sighting in California before his move to Oklahoma was during his Fort Worth running buddy Delbert McClinton's set at the Palomino in North Hollywood. Williams took over the piano, and played an original ballad unaccompanied by the band, who all stood there with their mouths open in sheer

wonder. There wasn't a sound heard in the raucous room during the entire song, and at the end an experienced pro leaned over and told me, "I never want to hear another song in my life, because no matter what it is, it'll never be that good. I'm done," and then walked out of the club. Williams himself gave the audience a slight nod, and then walked out too. Shortly after, he left the state and bought a big spread in Leonard, Okla., and started writing more songs than ever.

By then, he was becoming the go-to songwriter. Clapton covered five Williams songs on his *Journeyman* album, including "Pretending" and "Running on Faith." Bonnie Raitt, who had started with *Gone*'s "Talk to Me" on '82's *Green Light*, included "Real Man" and "I Will Not Be Denied" on *Nick of Time*, which won three Grammys. Williams contributed

five songs to B.B. King's *King of Blues*, and co-wrote "Tick Tock" with Jimmie and Stevie Ray Vaughan for their *Family Style* set. The publishing royalties were rolling in, but for Williams, who added his middle name Lynn to minimize confusion with singer Jerry Williams Jr., aka Swamp Dogg, he always kept his eye on the prize of making more albums of his own. Before long, I had a whole wall of new demos, and frequent calls from the singer, testing the waters regarding a return to Warner Bros. He felt the need to mend fences, and truly felt his music could make a difference.

"Music is the voice of angels and spirits, and if you treat it that way, that's what you'll get out of it," he said, and believed it. I'd always refer to him as the Twisted Christian, because he had a true faith in God. At the same time, he wouldn't be denied any of the worldly pleasures.

Finally, after not finding any takers on a new album, Williams decided to do it himself and released *The Peacemaker* on his own Urge label. Once again, he played most of the instruments himself, though Clapton, Fleetwood, and Stevie Ray Vaughan also contributed to the sessions. It includes his original version of "Running on Faith," along with "Sending Me Angels," later covered by Delbert McClinton and several others. The man the *Los Angeles Times* recently eulogized as "probably the most successful unknown songwriter in rock and rhythm and blues" had re-entered the ring, though only a select few knew it.

The album never got national distribution, and while Williams did his best to get it heard, not even his hardcore fans ever got a chance to find it. None of which, obviously, slowed the singer down a bit. The last time I saw Williams in person was at the Hole in the Wall in 1994, when he came to town for SXSW, and showed up at the release party for the Texas Tornados' new album *4 Aces*.

In a room full of stellar musicians, he was the brightest light there. He had a walkie-talkie to keep in touch with his tour bus driver, never mind that he wasn't on tour, and a cell phone to call his limo driver. Watching him go back and forth from one to the other was like observing a man playing ping-pong with himself, and at last when the Tornados took the stage, Williams slipped out like the Lone Ranger he often seemed to be. If he wasn't going to be making the music himself, what was the point of being there? In his endless grace, it wasn't a slap at anyone else, it was simply the way it was. So off he went.

□

Once Williams moved to St. Maarten in 2002, I kept staring at the cassette he'd given me in '84. It would stare back at me, daring me



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to do something with it. Then one day it came to me. These nine songs had been an invisible soundtrack in my life for so many years, surely others should be able to hear their beauty too. I found a small label to take it on, and we titled it *Demos From Shangri-La*. Williams even had his publisher in England e-mail us a sound file of a new ballad called "Love and Shelter" that was absolutely gorgeous, and the perfect end for the album. After mastering the music, the label got cold feet because there wasn't anyone to sign a contract for the deal, and the label head was afraid one of the old studio owners would come out of the woodwork to claim rights to the original recordings.

The bad news is that the album never came out, but the good news is that instead of my 22-year-old cassette, I now have a supposedly indestructible compact disc to last me the rest of my days. Williams was disappointed, but in our frequent e-mail exchanges he understood the timidities of the music world. After all, he'd been fighting them his whole life, usually without a Tonto by his side for support. He'd sign off each time as "His Jerriness King Solomon," and promise that glorious days were ahead for us all, never doubting the wisdom of his Lord, or the unending beauty of the world.

To this his day, too many people have never heard Jerry Williams' music played by him. Very few know what put the magic there, and how a young teenager living in Fort Worth had turned his life over to chasing the sound he heard in his head and in the wind. Sometimes he connected and sometimes he was spinning his wheels, but Jerry Lynn Williams never quit, right up until he took his last breath on November 25, 2005, down in St. Maarten, where he'd gone "offshore," as he liked to say, to get away from what the recording business had become. There, he could write the music he knew could change the world.

"It's gonna be something," he said. "I hope it will, if God will stay with me. And I don't see any reason why He'd abandon me now."


*Save your love like it means the world to you
That's exactly what your love means to me
Like a spirit, Lord, finally set free
Save your love for me*

In the world of Jerry Williams, there was always hope. He was constantly dreaming of the day his songs would lift the lives of his listeners, taking them to a better place. His last messages to me were not about moving on, but about all the music there was still to be made. When I found out Williams had died, the chorus from "Save Your Love" – the very first song on the demo tape he had given me so many years ago – started playing in my mind, as it often did when I needed a friend. That's when I finally figured out what Williams meant: he was writing from the Lord's viewpoint, telling us that in remembering to love Him, the kingdom of heaven was right here on Earth. And for that, we should all smile for the masked messenger of rock, for we know exactly who he was. ■

All lyrics by Jerry Lynn Williams

Bill Bentley has bought over 25 copies of Jerry Williams' *Gone for friends*, each copy for under \$1. He's still trying to get it reissued on CD.

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THE GOURDS

Heavy Ornamentals
(Eleven Thirty)

Now eight albums in, the Gourds' Sabine River-centric mash of rock, country, swamp pop, Southern soul, and Zydeco continues packing a kinky good vibe. Over 13 languidly woven tracks, *Heavy Ornamentals* huffs and puffs with a beery-breathed, deeply rooted soul force that comes from a perfect storm of passion and prowess without pretension. "Declineometer" leads off with a twanged-up piss-take on the Midwestern sustenance rock rubric, but before you settle into it, Austin's Band has beamed itself from Minneapolis down to Acadiana for the accordion-infused groove of "Burn the Honeysuckle." Mick Taylor-era Stones is the springboard for "Mr. Betty," while Sir Doug gets his due on "Shake the Chandelier." The Gourds' penchant for colorful lyrical tangents is posted on "New Roommate," a laundry list of failed living arrangements, while live staple "Hooky Junk" and twisting "The Education Song" invite slurred sing-alongs with their good-natured R&B pedigrees before the mournful piano and fiddle of "Our Patriarch" swings the mood to wide open contemplation. "Pill Box Blues" is as close as *Heavy Ornamentals* gets to a straight-ahead country tune, and frankly, it's just as well. The one thing that'll never fit in the Gourds' big book of eclecticism is convention.

★★★ — Greg Beets

WHITE GHOST SHIVERS

Live on the Radio (Chicken Ranch)

Pinwheeling their vaudevillian delivery to Western swing, bluegrass, hot jazz, blues, hillbilly, and ragtime, Austin's White Ghost Shivers have proven themselves a formidable live band over the last half-dozen years. Performance prowess has garnered the local octet live radio spots, a loyal following for their Halloween blowouts, the call to score Buster Keaton films for the Alamo Drafthouse, and out-of-state tours. Following last year's re-release of debut *Hokum If You Got 'Em*, *Live* compiles on-air guest spots from KUT and KVRX from 2002-2004, and while WGS is a well-oiled act onstage, not all live shows are equal. Radio spots have tightrope-without-a-net energy and better sound control, but only an imagined version of the performer-audience dynamic. On top of that, it's pretty ballsy to release two similarly songed LPs in the same year. Luckily for WGS, radio versions of studio tunes ("Outhouse Blues," "Tell It to Me") are rendered better, while lady-vox-driven opener "Pipe Dreams" and the randy "Big N Easy" anchor this broadcast. Like the live arena, *Radio* is a temporal pleasure.

★★★ — David Lynch

BOXCAR PREACHERS

Auto-Body Experience

On their sophomore effort, the Boxcar Preachers' brand of old-time bluegrass music is played judiciously and with enthusiasm. Unfortunately, there are aspects of the local ensemble's methodology that seem forced, at times clichéd, which while engaging live are simply disagreeable on album. They claim kinship with the likes of the Gourds and Split Lip Rayfield, two groups that possess the talent to go to extremes and make it at the very least amusing. When the Boxcar Preachers go over the top, as they rattle on "Ain't No Grave Gonna Keep My Body Down," it comes across as a cheap imitation of Mojo Nixon. Attempting overdone covers by Johnny Cash ("Folsom Prison Blues") and the Louvin Brothers ("Atomic Power") are risky unless you bring something new to them, and this quintet isn't up to the task, performing each in a straightforward and undistinguished manner. Originals like the speed-grass/gospel "Model T" and country rocker "Earthquaker" show vocalist and guitarist Bruce Gardener's capacity for composing occasionally engaging rave-ups. All told, however, this *Auto-Body Experience* is a forced inspection.

★★ — Jim Caligiuri

continued on p.60



LIVE SHOTS

BUN B

Back Room, Jan. 22

Anticipation heightened late Sunday evening as armchair quarterbacks wagered on whether the newly-paroled Pimp C would be joining his UGK counterpart Bun B at the Back Room. Ultimately, Houston's stately rapper (pictured left) went it alone, focusing on his 2005 solo debut, *Trill*. Bun's 30-minute set drew from a full stable of Pimp C-produced classics, including "Pocket Full of Stones," "Front, Back and Side to Side," and "Let Me See It." The performance also highlighted Bun's knack for impeccable guest verses as he ran through his contributions to Jay-Z's "Big Pimpin'," Three 6 Mafia's "Sippin' on Some Syrup," Webbie's "Give Me That," and Young Jeezy's "Trap or Die," then dropped "Get Throwed" along with the Salih Williams-produced "Draped Up" from his solo disc. Closing with a promise, "When I come back, I'm gonna bring Pimp C with me," Bun B knew exactly how to feed fans just enough to leave them fiending for more. Spending hours on end waiting for a headlining act to go on, only to be met with an all-too-abrupt show (all too



GARY MILLER

standard for the genre), will rub unexperienced hip-hop patrons the wrong way, but at least the DJs filled in by playing such mesmerizing local jams as Casino & Gutta Gang's "Gametime." In a zone of its own devices, Texas rap continues to flourish by doing what it does best, balling out of control.

— Robert Gabriel

THE PAUL GREEN SCHOOL OF ROCK MUSIC PRESENTS 'THE WALL'

Redrum, Jan. 20

Seeing 15 children clad in black with matching red armbands perform Pink Floyd's classic *The Wall* is surreal enough, but witnessing their parents singing along as a full house puts it all in perspective. The Paul Green School of Rock Music has been educating Austin kids in the art of the rock since September, and their live debut came in the form of back-to-back nights of one of rock's conceptual peaks. As musical director and local punk rock vet Rick Carney prefaced, the experience was the result of "three months of sweat, frustration, and torture" for the teachers at the school. Pink would have been proud. A fog machine added to the swagger of plodding opener "In the Flesh," and by "The Thin Ice," the kids had the rock posturing down. "Another Brick in the Wall" sounded funkier than the original as vocalist Trey Gish looked out from under his long mop with appropriate English sneer when he sang, "Leave them kids alone." The diminutive guitarist on "Young Lust" looked like a mini-Kurt Cobain, and keyboardist Colt Rogers had some Joel in him. There was stumbling, of course, some nervousness, some forget-



MARY SLEDD

ting of words. Yet Carney and assistant Travis Woodard took it all in stride from the front of the stage, coaxing the kids back into spotlight as the fog machine coughed out bitchin' versions of "Hey You" and "Run Like Hell." For a production as acid-fabled as this one, the kids did a great job. Can't wait for their Ramones tribute this spring.

— Audra Schroeder

BIG CHIEF KEVIN GOODMAN & THE FLAMING ARROWS

Red Eyed Fly, Jan. 19

With hurricane winds scattering tribes westward, Mardi Gras Indians find themselves reinstating their festive customs here in Austin. Founded by his father in 1963, Big Chief Kevin Goodman's troupe of Flaming Arrows translates second-line traditions to the funk format as they run through a full menu of New Orleans standards. "Big Chief" by Professor Longhair, "Iko Iko" by the Dixie Cups, "Fire on the Bayou" by the Meters, and "Meet de Boys on the Battlefront" by Wild Tchoupitoulas each flashed feathers on the Red Eyed Fly stage like warring social clubs in exuberant strut. Chanting a Creole patois that bridges the gravelly gap between Louis Armstrong and Juvenile, Goodman fronts a band that stretches numbers into meditative mantras à la Funkadelic milking a third encore. While sound issues and the inexperience of new recruits to the group resulted in a shaky presentation last Thursday night, the Flaming Arrows should eventually coalesce as a mighty riverboat of swamp magic. Teaching his newly adopted city that Mardi Gras entails so much more than merely booze, beads, and big tits, Big Chief Kevin regaled his audience with a hand-stitched costume fit for a shaman. Representing the crossroads of Native American, African, Spanish, and French cultures, even a seasonal children's song such as the Meters' "They All Ask'd About You" teems with implied functionality. At a point in time when eating King Cake without swallowing its baby seems like a lost art, Big Chief Kevin busies himself by soothing the souls of those in exile.

— Robert Gabriel



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AUSTIN JAZZ WORKSHOP
Big Boss Tenor
(Ausjazz Music)

The Austin Jazz Workshop may have the most important gig in town: bringing jazz into area public schools. *Big Boss Tenor* is a culmination of their 11th season, which celebrated Tough Texas Tenors; in this instance, the long horns belong to AJW mastermind Mike Melinger and the ubiquitous Alex Coke. The two saxophonists have complementary styles, Melinger offering a creamy, burnished sound to Coke's sharper-toned and craggier delivery. Culled from three live dates employing varying rhythm sections, this is the fourth disc under the AJW aegis. It's also the first to feature all original compositions, most by either Melinger or Coke. These compositions, the same ones performed in the schools, are a huge part of the album's success, offering a wide stylistic palette ranging from the Brazilian bounce of "Big Tenor Bossa" and bluesy swagger of "Imperial Twilight" to South Africa-meets-Far East swing of "Pool Hall in Bangkok." Pianist Shawn Ellison even draws a clever Allman Brothers connection from the latter. Were these tunes more succinct, Big Boss Tenor might inhabit its title better, but this is a strong offering nonetheless, and one our children are fortunately getting the opportunity to hear in person. ★★★ – Jay Trachtenberg

THE WEIRD WEEDS
Hold Me (Digitalis)

Somehow, the Weird Weeds are catchy. As disjointed and abrupt as their songs are, there's a common thread through their elegiac melodies. The local threesome employs an interesting dynamic of calculated sound vs. noise. Noirish opener "Paratrooper Seed" leads into the jagged drumming of Nick Hennies (who recently played with Jandek) and there's feral interplay between guitarists Sandy Ewen and Kurt Newman on "Fifty Dollars." The brooding cacophony of "Castor Plants" ends as abruptly as it began. Ewen's guitar creates a Kubrickesque scratching on "Holy Train Wrecks," as well as a high-pitched scream to end the song. "Bachelor Party" is rife with squeals of guitar and what sounds like footsteps over Hennies' soft vocals ("What room are they in?" he asks to no one in particular). Closer "Ribs & Wrinkles" is a continuous sprinkle of guitar and percussion, which leads to the final declaration of *Hold Me*: "I can play you like a xylophone." Thus is the give and take for Weird Weeds: build it up and tear it down – down the rabbit hole. ★★★ – Audra Schroeder

ATTIC TED
Hemogoblin (Pecan Crazy)

The masked marauders of San Marcos-bred Attic Ted are a warble-laden curiosity best experienced live and in your face. That said, *Hemogoblin* is an invigorating demonstration of the backhanded prowess that holds all their deep-fried layers of noise together. Dissonant strains of country, goth, punk, and psychedelic collide and bind to each other as they dance around the weathered nucleus of after-hours Central Texas freakdom. Organ wizard Grady Roper leads this fourth album charge like a stout-hearted parade marshal intent on playing and singing through the apocalypse



until the last cockroach stops twisting. Appropriately, "Ring Goes the Phone" is just a bob and weave to the left of Manfred Mann's "Do Wah Diddy." When the quintet breaks out their Old World stomping shoes on "Reflexion" and "The Black Condor," you can almost imagine Attic Ted laying down the soundtrack for a Wild in the Streets-style mass dosing of New Braunfels' Wursthfest. Guitarist Wade Driver draws on his Hickoids pedigree with stark-raving twang on "Stilts," but Lance McMahon's burning bed of samples takes it even higher. The clincher is "Hopper's Encore," a lengthy instrumental approximating the death squeals of a videogame aboard a sinking ship. ★★★ – Greg Beets

THE HANDSOME CHARLIES
Gentlemen Never Tell
(I Eat Records)

Bands rise and fall on poker faces, going to great lengths to avoid being accused of trying too hard. Discernible effort flirts dangerously with being uncool, and the ladies certainly don't like that. So, for Austin's Handsome Charlies, the challenge is maintaining their carefully crafted suit-and-tie posture when the jeans-and-sneakers band within clearly wants to come out and play. Lead singer Sam Lipman's Australian roots are evident both vocally and structurally; most songs coast on jaunty chords and peppy rhythms like Squeeze. Lipman also handles the horn charts, playing all the necessary instruments himself, adding mystery to the lush "Eyes" and brassy oomph to out-and-out pop numbers like "Makes Me Love You." The same dynamic arrangements that make "Queen of Rock & Roll" such a gooey glam-rock treat step in when Lipman and Hamish Johnson's guitars threaten to get lost amid the dizzying astral projections of Radiohead or Coldplay. Instead, the Handsome Charlies know exactly when to wink, when to sigh, and when to step on the fuzz pedal. How do they know? Uh-uh, *Gentlemen Never Tell*. ★★★ – Christopher Gray



ASSACRE

Fantastic Illusions Worth Dying For (Awthum)

Assacre is but one man, but he wails like a metal symphony: thrashing guitar riffs interspersed with teeth-chattering beats and disturbing glimpses of humanity. Prog metal meets performance art. This full-length debut gnashes windmill hair with gay porn without being overly ironic. The title track, a drugged-out "Star-Spangled Banner," opens *Fantastic Illusions*, which then whips through testosterone-ridden splays of ecstasy (the immortal "Gayer Than God") and glorious jazzy sci-fi dork-outs ("Kalos K'Agathos Gopgos"). "All homosexuals are not passive," warns a particularly jarring sample of 1961 juvenile anti-gay film *Boys Beware*. Assacre's combination of classic metal and samples from evangelist sermons, vintage TV shows, and sound effects brings metal out of the bonehead genre into a thinking-man's game. More stomp, less bang. But it isn't as simple as that. The experimental Atari noise of "Thy Crystal Odelisk Shall Ascend Into Storm Clouds of Mechanical Mystery" (wow) becomes the slurring trip of closer "The Ultimate Dalme of Human Life": a slow-burning acoustic credit-roller. *Fantastic Illusions* is a page-turner, a mark of utter worth from a man, a dinosaur mask, and a drum machine. ★★★ – Darcie Stevens

THE APPLICATORS
I Know the Truth

Fully fleshed and song-savvy, the Applicators' second album is a wild ride that accents the quintet's road-honed punk chops with snap-crackle production and unabashed emotion. Vocalist Sabrina Applicator is a siren embodying the venom and longing of everything she spits. The ill-winded "My Weapon" resonates with latter-day Dee Dee Ramone bitterness, while "I Need You" swings the mood into wistful Joey territory. ★★★



BELHOME

A View of the Woods (Built)

Commingling richly textured strains of Americana with just a hint of gothic despair, Belhome's sound has staying power. *A View of the Woods* starts strong with "Before We Drown," a sprightly pop song that cinches the deal with Andrea Couch's violin. Overlong songs cause momentum to wane, but redemption arrives with "It's Right," an Old World folk spiral that slowly morphs into incendiary rock. ★★★



THE CASTING COUCH
Row Your Boat (I Eat Records)

Make room at the table for the Casting Couch. Athens, GA. emigré Wendy Mitchell pits her stew of lyrical switchbacks up against a piquant blend of post-graduate pop and erudite twang to deliver a punch. The Couch's elaborate, frayed-suit arrangements incorporate horns, accordion, steel guitar, and melodica as fancy dictates, while Mitchell's vocals alternate between the breezy wit on the title track and genuine jukebox tear-jerk on "Liar." ★★★



CONDITION OF SALE
We Are Your New Gods EP

Condition of Sale's five-song firestorm of full-throttle art punk is a short but promising debut. Informed by forebears like the Jesus Lizard and Didjits, the local trio bursts forth on the title track with a malevolent proclamation

BONUS TRACKS

BY GREG BEETS

of rock divinity. The harrowing sermon "She Said" is reminiscent of TV on the Radio with the volume knob permanently lodged on distortion. ★★★



THE COOTIES
Circle Circle Dot Dot

The Cooties describe themselves as "hopelessly quirky," but that assessment is a bit harsh. The trio's rudimentary pop riffs burrow deep into the earwax on topical digressions like "Ball" and "Bee," and their helium-enhanced harmonies have a skewed late-night charm all their own. It might not yet be substantial enough to sustain an entire album, but efficacy is just a tweak or so away. ★★



HEROES

Return Prophets (Pretend Agenda)

Ambitious San Marcos hip-hop collective Heroes springboards from an old-school sensibility that's grounded in the promise of A Tribe Called Quest's *The Low End Theory*. Valuing free-flow over hooks, *Return Prophets* showcases solid, expansive skills that would benefit from a sharper focus. That said, anyone who draws on both Paul Williams ("All the Hero") and Harold Melvin ("Wake Up") is on the right track. ★★★



SECULAR END

Revenge of the Phoenix (Cellar Door)

Phoenix transplants Secular End poke and prod at pop-punk's cathartic essence from a variety of angles on their debut. The catchy "Machines Are Slowly Taking Over My Pulse" adds a New Wave quirk to the mix, "Hey Judas" offers a Black Francis sneer, and "Make Believe" takes an ill-advised stab at rap metal. Even though the tangent swapping doesn't always yield distinguished results, a scrappy energy pervades throughout. ★



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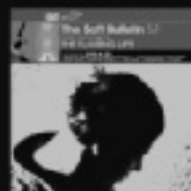
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LEAD STORY

Last Oct. 31, according to a Minneapolis *Star Tribune* police column, “An employee of a business ... complained that a former co-worker had been constantly showing up and kissing his truck, leaving lip marks all over it. Police warned the man to stay away.”

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

- In September, fertility experts interviewed by London’s *Daily Telegraph* said an alarming number of women were choosing in-vitro fertilization not because of trouble conceiving but merely because “fast track” pregnancies better fit their busy lifestyles. (Said one clinician, “Some people are horrified by the idea that they have to have sex two to three times a week [to maximize the likelihood of conception].”) And in October, an official at the Erasmus fertility clinic in Brussels, Belgium, said that because more lesbian couples were seeking insemination at a time of dwindling sperm supplies, the clinic might have to restrict its services to male-female couples.
- The provincial government in Buenos Aires began in December requiring all retail clothiers selling to adolescent girls to stock a range of “plus” sizes in order to encourage larger girls to obsess less about being thin. And in November, researchers from the Adelaide and Meath Hospital in Ireland told a convention in Chicago that two-thirds of their patients who received injections into the buttock muscle had not received the full dose of medicine because existing needles are not long enough to reach beyond the fat.

RECENT TACKY POLITICAL CANDIDATES

1) In a race between two African-Americans, Don Samuels was elected again to the Minneapolis City Council in November, despite (or thanks to) his 2004 statements that he can effectively serve the city’s blacks because he descended from “house slaves” in the South rather than “field slaves.” 2) City Council Member Clark Griep failed in his bid for mayor of Broomfield, Colo., despite his “October surprise” of revealing that the incumbent mayor, Karen Stuart, had had an extra-marital affair eight years ago with him. (She denied it.) 3) Former Durham, N.C., City Council Member Jackie Wagstaff was beaten in the race for mayor last fall, having run as “J-Dub” on a “gangsta” platform, promising to bring “street teens” into her administration. (Eight of the 17 mayoral and council candidates in Durham, including J-Dub, had criminal records.)



BY CHUCK SHEPHERD



Inappropriate Kisses: Malaysian Shahimi Abdul Hamid, 33, announced that on March 11, he will, as a matter of Asian pride, challenge the world record for speed-kissing a venomous snake, which is held by an American, and he smooched up a 9-foot-long cobra at his press conference.

GOVERNMENT IN ACTION

- Some of the most heavily armed park rangers in the world (carrying AR-15 and Galil automatic rifles and pump-action shotguns and protected by body armor) patrol 124,000 acres west of Mexico City, to protect monarch butterflies. The rangers keep loggers out of the area because the monarch population (22 million, this season) represents an 80% drop from the year before.
- When Welsh Assembly Member Jenny Randerson was turned down in December in her request under Wales’ Freedom of Information Act for government documents about the budget, the official explanation given in the letter of denial was that, “The exposure of some of these discussions to the public domain, via a freedom of information request, may lead to individuals ... being

targeted for ridicule through the media.” (Randerson pointed out that the act doesn’t mention that defense.)

- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service once again in December rejected efforts to remove the gray wolf from the list of endangered species in Nevada, despite general agreement among biologists that the last confirmed sighting of one in the state was in 1941. (The agency said its hands are tied by the wording of the law.)
- *The Los Angeles Times*, after a public records search, found in January that the city’s Department of Water and Power had spent \$1 million in the last two years in a campaign to convince residents that the city does, indeed, have top-quality municipal water, yet its employees spent \$88,000 of taxpayer money during the same period on commercial bottled water.

GREAT ART!

In November, prominent, occasionally self-mutilating performance artist Marina Abramovic, 59, performed “covers” of other performance artists’ seminal works (with their permission) in her “Seven Easy Pieces” show at New York City’s Guggenheim Museum. In one, according to a *New York Times* profile, she covered her head in honey and gold leaf, cradled a dead rabbit, and whispered to it about pictures on the wall (original artist: Joseph Beuys). In another, she lay on a bed above lighted candles and made cuts on her fingers while slides of women painting their nails flashed on a screen (original artist: Gina Pane). However, she was stymied by the denial of permission for her fondest proposed “cover”: Chris Burden’s 1973 piece in which his hands were nailed to the roof of a Volkswagen as it was rolled out of a garage.

POLICE BLOTTER

1) From the *Union Democrat* (Sonora, Calif.), Nov. 20, 2005: “Big Oak Flat. A woman said an exhaust system stolen from her vehicle was returned and reinstalled” 2) from the *Peru* (Ind.) *Tribune*, Oct. 14, 2005: “[A] caller ... told the [sheriff’s office] a man was in the middle of the road. The man told officers he was looking for his tooth that he lost yesterday while eating peanuts. He thinks he may have tossed it out the car window while he was tossing out peanut shells.”

LEAST COMPETENT CRIMINALS

If the December robbery of a pharmacy went down the way McMinnville, Ore., police believe, it indicates the suspect, sheriff’s deputy David Verbos, 36, had little respect for their crime-solving ability. Verbos allegedly took OxyContin at gunpoint in the robbery, but later called the McMinnville police to report that someone had stolen his license plates (perhaps hoping to insulate himself in case a witness had glimpsed the plate at the scene). However, when police arrived to take a report, they noticed that Verbos, a stocky man about 5-9, was wearing a black jacket, gray sweat pants, and white sneakers, thus fitting nearly dead-on the description of the man who had robbed the pharmacy.

CORRECTION: Two weeks ago, I labeled the Colorado developer Bigg Homes as the “creator” of the community of Eagle Mountain. However, Bigg is only one developer, and many people who live there have no relationship with Bigg.

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a customer convenience fee may apply

calendar

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26 - THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2

C

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ILM p.74 +

M

USIC listings p.86

this week

COMMUNITY LISTINGS

(PLUS HIGHLIGHTS FROM **ARTS**, **FILM**, AND **MUSIC**) BY NORA ANKRUM

Thursday 26

ACLU MONTHLY FORUM UT Law professor Douglas Laycock will be discussing the First Amendment rights of corporations; afterward, vote on whether the ACLU should work on a national level toward the removal of corporate personhood. 5:30pm. **ACLU Conference Room, 1210 Rosewood.**

BIKES ACROSS BORDERS COMMUNITY BIKE SHOP 6-10pm. Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen, 385-3695. Free. bikesacrossborders@riseup.net.

BOARD GAME NIGHT AT VENTANA DEL SOUL 6pm. Ventana del Soul, 1834 E. Oltorf, 707-7447. Free.

COMMUNITY DINNER Sup with the folks of the Rhizome Collective. Donations of pots, pans, food containers, spices, and the like are welcome. Volunteer prep, 4-6pm; community dinner, 6-7pm. Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen, 385-3695. Free.

EMANCIPET FREE DAYS Check their Web site to see when this mobile spay/neuter clinic will be in your neighborhood! 8am, check-in begins (first come, first served). Emancipet, 601 E. Airport, 587-SPAY. Free.

GATEWAY TO RECOVERY: ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT ADDICTION AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT This week: getting, and staying, sober. Listen to what works for others and get information on available resources and support in the community. 7-9pm. Covenant Presbyterian Church, 3003 Northland, 454-5231. Free.

INSIDE BOOKS PROJECT VOLUNTEER NIGHT 6-10pm. Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen, 385-3695.

ITALIAN LANGUAGE CLASSES 6-9pm. 3840 Far West Blvd., 345-8941. eringgenberg@austin.rr.com, www.geocities.com/atasteofitalyinaustin/atasteofitalyinaustin.

SOUTH AUSTIN SPIRITUAL BOOK GROUP with *The Power of Now*. 1-2pm. Barnes & Noble South, 5601 Brodie, 892-3493. Free.

THE STOREHOUSE Hungry? Broke? Come and eat. 10am-2pm. The Storehouse, 111-A Ramble Ln. #120. Free. info@the-storehouse.org.

The Paying for College Bus Tour makes a stop for Austin's Latino families

[SEE ONGOING]

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts) **Gallery 3**

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings) **Open Screen Night** @ Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm **Psychobilly Sickness** @ Alamo Drafthouse South, 10pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings) **Duncan Sheik** Cactus Cafe **KAOS Benefit with Lions, Honky, Elvis on Speed Beerland** **Whit Smith & His Hot Jazz Caravan** Threadgill's World HQ

Friday 27

CONVERSATIONAL FRENCH CLASSES 1pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. Free with cafe purchase.

CRITICAL MASS Take back the streets! (See Sports) 5pm. The UT West Mall where it meets Guadalupe (between 22nd and 23rd streets). www.criticalmassrides.info/austin.html.

EMANCIPET'S FREE DAYS (See Thursday, 1/26)

NAVIGATING BREAST CANCER TOGETHER 6-8:30pm. St. David's Health Resource Center, 3000 N. I-35, 472-1738 x100.

COMEDY (See Arts Listings) **Howard Beecher** Velveta Room

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings) **Barton Fink** @ Paramount, 9:15pm **Live Freaky! Die Freaky!** @ Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid

Through May 31. **Mondays-Thursdays.** *Movin' Easy*, 502 W. 30th, 653-7369. info.mariposasspanish.com, www.mariposasspanish.com.

TODDLER STORYTIME AT AUSTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY You couldn't throw a rock without hitting a bunch of toddlers listening to stories this spring. So, uh, don't throw rocks. **Tuesdays, 10:15am:** Milwood Branch, 12500 Amherst, 339-2355; Hampton Branch at Oak Hill, 5125 Convict Hill, 892-6680; Howson Branch, 2500 Exposition, 472-3584; North Village Branch, 2139 W. Anderson, 458-2239; Pleasant Hill Branch, 211 E. William Cannon, 974-3940. **Wednesays, 10:15am:** Hampton Branch at Oak Hill; Milwood Branch; **Thursdays, 10:15am:** Pleasant Hill Branch. Free. www.ci.austin.tx.us/library.

BOOKS AND BABIES for li'l baldies and their folks. **Thursdays, 10:15am.** Ages 12-20 months; **11:15am.** Ages 0-12 months. Carver Library, 1161 Angelina, 472-8954. Free. www.ci.austin.tx.us/library.

TEACHER OF THE YEAR Nominate your favorite teacher for this statewide award, sponsored by the Teachers' Insurance

Plan, and he or she could win \$1,000 while your school could win a \$500 grant. **Deadline: March 1.** www.teachers.com/totv.

BOOKPEOPLE BOOKMARK CONTEST If your artwork wins, thousands of your professionally printed bookmarks will be displayed in the store and handed out at Austin schools. Entry forms available online and in the store. **Deadline: Feb. 28.** www.bookpeople.com/infobook.html?isbn=bmcentry.

CONNECTING CHILDREN TO BOOKS features the wonderful Miss Tiffany with a story each Friday. **Fridays, 10am.** Connections Resource Center, 825 E. 53rd Ste. E-101, 478-5725 x214. www.connectionscenter.org.

DADS AND DAUGHTERS PLAYGROUP offers a chance for young girls (ages 2-3) to hang out with their Pops and do sporty things on the weekend. But, since these are nice people, they'd like to stress that it doesn't have to be a daughter/dad combo. They don't want to make anyone feel unwanted, after all. Call or e-mail for more info. **Various locations, 990-2624.** austinlabradores@yahoo.com.



Saturday 28

AFRICAN-AMERICAN ENTREPRENEUR CIRCLE MEETING will have a round-table discussion for upcoming and established business owners. 2:30pm. Carver Library, 1161 Angelina, 472-8954. Free. aaecaustin.tripod.com.

ATTRACTING BENEFICIAL WILDLIFE TO YOUR YARD Find out how a water garden will attract butterflies and other helpful little creatures to your verdant oasis. Preregistration required. 9am-noon. Zilker Park Botanical Gardens, 2220 Barton Springs Rd., 974-2550. \$10.

AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET 9am-1pm. Republic Square Park, Fourth & Guadalupe, 236-0074. Free. www.austinfarmersmarket.org.

AUSTIN PROGRESSIVE POTLUCKERS Interested in making a difference? The nonprofit and grassroots organizations at this tasty gathering will help you in your quest. 6:30-9:30pm. Casa de Luz, 1701 Toomey, 476-2535. www.austinprogressivecalendar.com/potluck.htm.

BONE APPETIT FOR PAWS Nonprofit animal shelter PAWS just received 10 acres of Hill Country for its new facility – now they just need to build it so that their furry adoptees can frolic about in their newfound nature paradise. If you can't make the fundraiser (there'll be an auction and a Hill Country French menu complete with truffles), you can still donate to the cause online. 5:30pm. Juniper Hills Farm, 5818 RR 165, Blanco. www.juniperhillsfarm.com, www.pawsshelter.org/boneappetit.html.

BOOK BONANZA Free books! Piles and piles! 10am. Faulk Central Library, 800 Guadalupe; Friends

Monster Book Store, 1800 S. Fifth, 974-7400. www.cityofaustin.org/library/news/nr20030625.htm.

EVERYWOMAN'S SELF DEFENSE PERSONAL SAFETY SEMINAR Taught for women, by women: strategies for everyday life as well as emergency situations. Register online. 2-5pm. Sun Dragon Women's Martial Arts & EveryWoman's Self-Defense Inc., 203 E. Riverside, 416-9735. \$50; scholarships available, bring a friend for free. www.everywomans-selfdefense.org.

FOOD NOT BOMBS feeds people delicious, healthy, and free food. Volunteers are always needed for prep. Cooking: 11am-2pm. House of Commons, 2610 Rio Grande; serving: 3-5pm. Wooldridge Square Park, Guadalupe between Ninth & 10th. fnbaustin@goutside.net.

MISS AUSTIN USA/MISS TEEN USA ORIENTATION Must be 14-25 years old to enter. 1pm. Wingate Inn, 1209 I-35, Round Rock, 512/759-4303. missaustinusa@aol.com, www.missaustinusa.com.

PERMACULTURE DESIGN CERTIFICATION COURSES: WATER AND SOIL Though this is an ongoing series, you can attend per class or for the whole shebang. For more information and class details, see the Web site. *Private residence.* selwyn@austintx.com, www.austinprogressivecalendar.com/permaculture.htm#PCJan06.

SHOAL CREEK VOLUNTEER WORKDAY Sign up online. www.austinparks.org/contact.html.

SOUTH MANCHACA ART MARKET 9am-2pm. 11800 Manchaca Rd. www.soaustin.com.

SUNSET VALLEY FARMERS MARKET 9:30am-1pm. Tony Burger Center, 3200 Jones, 280-1976.

chases. **Wednesdays and Saturdays, 1-2pm.** *Mitchie's Fine Black Art & Gift Gallery*, 6406 N. I-35 #2800, 323-6901.

AMERICAN YOUTH WORKS ENROLLMENT MEETINGS AYW offers a free fast-paced curriculum for motivated 16- to 20-year-old students. **Mondays, 5:30-6:30pm.** American YouthWorks, 1900 E. Ben White, 472-8220. Free.

GIFTED/TALENTED PARENT EDUCATION FORUM Jim Granada, the director of Advanced Academic Services for AISD, will discuss ways parents can work with schools to address gifted children's needs. Light dinner provided; register in advance. **Tue., Jan. 31, 6-7:30pm.** Baker Center, 3908 Avenue B, 414-9986.

AUSTIN HOME BASE hosts an open house for prospective students and families looking for a middle ground between home schooling and private school. **Tue., Jan. 31, 7-9pm.** Congregation Beth Israel, 3901 Shoal Creek Blvd., 299-5487. www.austinhomelbase.org.

BILINGUAL STORYTIME **Wednesdays, 10:15am.** St. John Branch Library, 7500 Blessing. Free.

the young ones

BORDERS North Children's story times are always fun. **Thursdays, 10:30am; Saturdays, 11am.** Borders, 10225 Research, 795-9553. **South** Children's story times are always tons of fun here, too. **Fridays and Saturdays, 11am.** Borders, 4477 S. Lamar, 891-8974.

GUITAR CLASSES FOR GIRLS taught by a degreed female instructor. Ages 6 and older. 809-7799. Group classes starting at \$10 (private classes available). emilycmarks@hotmail.com.

GROUNDWATER ESSAY CONTEST FOR \$1,500 SCHOLARSHIP PRIZE Hey, high school seniors. Write an essay about groundwater issues (you know, like pollution prevention, water conservation, or hydrogeology) and yours might be one of the two winning essays selected by an independent evaluation panel. (If you've completed the GED in the past six months, you can give it a go, too.) See the Web site for more information. Essays and applications must be received by March 1. 282-8441. www.bseacd.org/scholarship_program.htm.

MARIPOSAS SPANISH SCHOOL Spanish classes for children ages 3-10.

SURVIVING KATRINA: SHARING OUR STORIES

This oral-history and photography exhibit kicks off with excerpts of interviews from the New Orleans Disaster Oral History and Memory Project. Survivors, witnesses, and relief workers are invited to share their stories as well. Live jazz and refreshments (chicory coffee!) for all. 2-4pm. *University Hills Library, 4721 Loyola, 974-7400.*
www.aliveintruth.org, www.ci.austin.tx.us/library/ahc.

WEST SIXTH STREET ARTISTS' MARKET

10am-6pm. 709 W. Sixth, 698-8099.
www.6thstreetmarket.com.

WHEN TWO BECOME THREE: A TRANSITION TO PARENTHOOD

Relationship help for couples who are expecting (a meeting for adoptive parents will be held in February). 9:45am-4:30pm. Northwest Counseling & Wellness Center, 12335 Hymeadow Dr. #400, Round Rock, 512/577-3371. \$70, couple.

YEAR OF THE DOG LUNAR YEAR CELEBRATION

Dance, music, martial arts demonstrations, and, of course, food. 10am-3pm. Asian American Cultural Center, 11713 Jollyville Rd., 336-5069. Free.
www.asianamericancnc.com.

YELLER DAWG DEMOCRATS BRUNCH & DISCUSSION

11am. Tres Amigos, 1801 S. Capital of TX Hwy., 327-1776. bmcabee@austin.rr.com.

THE STOREHOUSE 10am-2pm. The Storehouse, 111-A Ramble Ln. #120. Free. info@the-storehouse.org. (See Thursday 01/26)

the GAY place

BY KATE X MESSER AND KATE GETTY

JUDITH HALBERSTAM IS COMING! Tonight! Jack Halberstam (*The Drag King Book*) throws down at UT! UT campus, AVAYA Auditorium, ACE 2.302. Thu., Jan. 26, 5pm. 232-4680. gsc@uts.cc.utexas.edu, www.jhalberstam.com.

ONCE-A-MONTH MUSIC Our fairest feminist bookstore ... not just for page-turning anymore. Let the toe-tapping begin with "Lost in" Austin's **Nancy Scott**, a legendary singer/songwriter with something to say – you'll just be humming along while she's saying it. Thu., Jan. 26, 7-9pm. BookWoman, 918 W. 12th, 472-2785. \$3. www.ebookwoman.com.

A GENDER BENDER BASH IDKE 8. Burn it to memory. An acronym that will make you glad you live in Austin this fall. The **International Drag King Community Extravaganza** (IDKE 8) is coming to Austin ... soon. But for now, tonight, as a matter of fact, let bands like **Adrian & the Sickness** and the **Handsome Charlies** put a little cheer to your queer, to raise some funds for the fest. Rock out now, support the fun to come later. It's what your therapist might call win-win. Thu., Jan. 26, 9:30. Elysium, 705 Red River, 478-2979. \$5. media@idkeAustin.com, www.idkeAustin.com.

UT GSC LISTSERV UT's Gender & Sexuality Center maintains, among other fabulous things, a helluva listserv. To submit something for the GSC's list or to subscribe to the e-mail list, please send an e-mail. gsc@uts.cc.utexas.edu.

MALEBOX AT OILCAN Every Wednesday, come check your box with Maleman Brian! Wednesdays. Oilcan Harry's, 211 W. Fourth, 320-8823. www.oilcanharrys.com.

DJ ALAN T Every weekend, DJ Alan T spins at the Can. Come early (and stay long!) on Fridays for happy hour (2-9pm). Fridays and Saturdays, 9pm-close. Oilcan Harry's, 211 W. Fourth, 320-8823.

HOT BEARS SAY RRRRRROOOOW! The cuddliest, hairiest, most barrel-chested bigboys await at the **Heart of Texas Bears**, a social service group dedicated to all things "Grrrrr." They host monthly coffees, movie nights, beer busts, etc. Get on their list for more info. info@heartoftexasbears.org, www.heartoftexasbears.org.

HOEDS, MOEDS, AND COEDS! Downtown Austin's friendly place offers three, count 'em, three **College Nights** a week! All feature drink specials, and Sundays and Tuesdays offer happy hour dinner deals! All three also end the evening with fancy, sexy shows, hosted by either **Jaime Perry** or **Paris Chanel**. Check the Web site for more details. Sundays, Mondays, and Tuesdays. Charlie's, 1301 Lavaca, 474-6481. www.charliesaustin.com.

SHE SAYS meets Tuesdays. This is the prime place to find UT dykes. Hook 'em! 6pm. www.queerut.org/shesays.

For more gay stuff, see *Calendar* online: austinchronicle.com. Send gay bits to gayplace@austinchronicle.com.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The *Austin Chronicle* is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Feb. 10 issue is Monday, Jan. 30.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials.

Send submissions to the attention of the appropriate writer (see roster below). Mail to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin 78765, fax 458-6910, or e-mail:

Kate X Messer or Kate Getty (The Gay Place):
gayplace@austinchronicle.com.

Mark Fagan (Sports): gameplans@austinchronicle.com.

Nora Ankrum (everything else): calendar@austinchronicle.com.

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, listings editor, 454-5766 or brenner@austinchronicle.com.

THEATRE (See Arts Listings)

Lee Stetson as John Muir Wild Basin Preserve

LITERA (See Arts Listings)

Litera's own Ric Williams 12th Street Books

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings)

Live Freaky! Die Freaky! @ Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid



"Best outdoor events."

– The Austin Chronicle Readers Poll

let's go



www.hillcountryoutdoors.com



MAKE ART. WIN MONEY. SAVE THE PLANET.

GREEN GATES EXHIBITION

CALL FOR ENTRIES

DEADLINE • FEB 24TH 2006

BE PART OF AUSTIN'S BIGGEST PUBLIC ART EVENT EVER

• Download entry form at austingreenart.org or pick one up Thurs 1/26 at Paggi House's Green Gates concert series



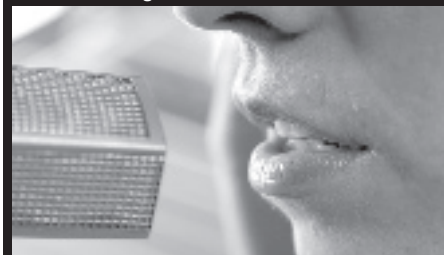
• Design your own Green Gate celebrating Earth Day

• 5 winning submissions RECEIVE \$500

• ALL ENTRIES DISPLAYED FEB 25th - MAR 2nd at GALLERY LOMBARDI

• 100 GATES installed in Austin Parks and green spaces

THE AUSTIN COUNCIL OF THE BLIND, Inc. sponsors AUSTIN INFORMATION RADIO (AIR), a radio reading service which provides news and information to blind and print handicapped citizens of the greater Austin area.



Volunteers are needed to read newspapers, magazines, and other items for broadcast over special radios provided, free, on loan to our listeners.

If you are interested in supporting this valuable service with a one-hour weekly commitment of your time, please call AIR's station manager, Douglas Foxworth at 512-452-8244.

VOLUNTEER

AIDS Services of Austin provides quality volunteer opportunities to anyone considering a role in the fight against AIDS. Volunteer where people from all walks of life give of their time and talents to make every aspect of our work possible. To get involved visit our website at www.asaustin.org or call 512.458.AIDS (2437).

green gates DESIGN COMPETITION



100 12-foot gates
DESIGNED BY YOU

Sunday 29

BENEFIT FOR GUATEMALAN HURRICANE VICTIMS Traditional Guatemalan cuisine, live music from Ruthie Foster, and the chance to help some of the 200,000 people left homeless by Hurricane Stan. (See Club Listings) 6:30pm. 290 West Bar & Grilly, 12013 Hwy. 290 W., 288-0808. Donations appreciated.

DEPARTMENT OF PEACE AND NONVIOLENCE It doesn't exist yet, but with your help it could: This meeting is your chance to join this campaign spearheaded by Dennis Kucinich. E-mail RSVP required. 7:30-9pm. Private residence, 845-6377. peggy@kelseys.net, www.thepeacealliance.org.

DIAMOND WAY BUDDHISM MEDITATION MEETING 7pm. 5900 Dunbury, 371-9803. www.diamondway.org/austin.

ENVISIONING A NEW POLITICAL PARADIGM IN AMERICA MEETING features presentations from peace activists and interfaith clergy from around the world. 7:30-9:30pm. The Crossings, 13500 FM 2769, 877-944-3003. \$10. www.thecrossingsaustin.com/events.

ESPERANTO CLUB MEETING 3pm. Texpresso, 2700 W. Anderson Ln., 467-9898. www.esperantoaustin.org.

HAPPY LIVING WITH JUSTICE offers a free yoga practice, followed by a meeting to increase awareness on environmental, peace, and justice issues. Locations vary. 4-6pm, 292-8093. Free. happylivingwithjustice@gmail.com.

HEART OF TEXAS LAB RESCUE VOLUNTEER MEETING Foster homes needed; other opportunities for helping are also available. 2pm. Hearts and Paws, 13033 FM 2769, 249-7255. www.hotlabrescue.org.

INSIDE BOOKS VOLUNTEER NIGHT 7pm-12mid. Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen, 385-3695.

LIBERTARIAN DISCUSSION GROUP hosted by Terry Liberty Parker. 6:30pm. Hickory Street Bar & Grille, 800 Congress, 477-8968. Free. www.groups.yahoo.com/group/libertarian.

MEDITATION & DISCUSSION GROUP: DEVELOPING THE GOOD HEART This ongo-

ing series is based upon the teachings of the Tibetan Buddhist tradition of Lama Tsong Khapa. Discussions and meditations will be facilitated by Bonnie Baptist, a lay-student of Lama Zopa Rinpoche, His Holiness the Dalai Lama, and others. Sundays, 2-4pm. Heart Song, 2700 W. Anderson Ln. #320. Donations accepted. www.austinfpm.com.

MUSICAL ELIXIR FOR INSTRUMENT-FIXER: BENEFIT FOR ELAINE FILION features live music and a silent auction to help this South Austin luthier/restorationist pay her medical bills. (See Club Listings) 1pm. Independent Order of Oddfellows Hall, 6809 Guadalupe, 447-4779 or 512/847-5820. sliding-scale donations.

SINGLE PARENT'S RESOURCE NETWORK'S pot-luck, playgroup, and clothing/stuff swap. Noon. Pease Park, Windsor & Lamar, 694-5272. Free. www.sprn.org.

TURNING PEOPLE INTO PROFIT: IS NAFTA REALLY FAIR? with Jean Davidson. 11:30am-12:30pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 452-6168. Free.

WEST SIXTH STREET ARTISTS' MARKET 10am-6pm. 709 W. Sixth, 698-8099. www.6thstreetmarket.com.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings) *Aguirre, the Wrath of God* @ Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm *Lunafest 2006* @ Alamo Downtown, 1pm *Miller's Crossing* @ Paramount, 7pm

Monday 30

AUSTIN AGAINST WAR MEETING 7pm. 2107 San Antonio, 323-9778. aaw@austinagainstwar.org, www.austinagainstwar.org.

CAPITOL CITY HIGHLANDERS PIPE BAND offer free lessons at their practices each week. 5:30-6:30pm. First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa, 346-3123 or 567-1282. Free.

DEVELOP YOUR PSYCHIC ABILITIES RSVP ... with your mind! 7-9pm. Human Potential Center, 2007 Bert, 441-8988. \$100, four-week course.

EMOTIONS ANONYMOUS MEETING Twelve steps to emotional health. 7:30-8:30pm. Shoal Creek Hospital, cafeteria annex, 3501 Mills Ave. www.emotionsanonymous.org.

FREE LEGAL ADVICE These night clinics from Volunteer Legal Services & Texas RioGrande Legal Aid are open to everyone, offer child care, and are right on the bus line. 6-7pm. Martin Middle School, 1601 Haskell. Free.

GREATER AUSTIN CHAMBER MEETING Name the Austinite of the Year at this annual meeting. 11:30am-1pm. Hilton Hotel Downtown, 500 E. Fourth, 322-5613. \$60 (\$40, members); \$600, table (\$400, member table). www.austinchamber.com.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS MEETING Call for location. 327-2802. Free. www.oa.org.

RECREATIONAL MUSIC & WELLNESS CLASSES 10:30am. Brook Mays Music Company, 2100 S. I-35 Ste. B4, Round Rock, 388-3999. Free, first semester. a_ashtora@yahoo.com.

YEAR OF BODHISATVA RENAISSANCE AWAKENING: A PROGRAM OF EDUCATION FOR LIBERATING ENLIGHTENMENT Awakeners reshape their lives by tapping hidden powers of their bodies and minds. So, uh, what do you do? 7-8:30pm. Shambhala Meditation Center, 1702 S. Fifth, 771-3184. \$10. kayoneill@earthlink.net.

Tuesday 31

ELDER MEDIATION: HOW TO MOVE FORWARD WHEN FAMILIES DON'T AGREE 6:30-8pm. AGE Building, 3710 Cedar, 451-4611. Free. echurch@ageofaustin.org, www.ageofaustin.org/cgcr.

GOING ON THE OFFENSIVE: DEFENDING ACADEMIC FREEDOM IN REACTIONARY TIMES Dr. Matthew Abraham, author of the upcoming book *Out of Bounds: Controversial Academic Scholarship and the Question of Palestine*, will be discussing political rhetoric and critical race theory. 7pm. Bass Lecture Hall, UT campus, LBJ School of Public Affairs, Red River between Dean Keeton & Manor Road, 471-1990. Free. rjensen@uts.cc.utexas.edu.

GUIDED-IMAGERY MEDITATION 7-8pm. Wellness by Design, 4701 Westgate Ste. C-301. Donations accepted. www.wellnessbydesign.us.

IGNITE YOUR INVENTIVENESS 7-9pm. Human Potential Center, 2007 Bert, 441-8988. \$95, supplies included.

ILLUMINATION SPOTLIGHT SERIES ON PSYCHIC ARTS is a four-part series designed to help you tap into otherwise inaccessible information and knowledge. 6:30-9pm. NiaSpace, 3212 S. Congress, 443-3013. \$80. xephyr@helios-consulting.net, www.helios-consulting.net/illumination.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS' STATE OF THE CITY DINNER Mayor Will Wynn will discuss emergency preparedness in Austin and review the city's response to hurricane evacuees. 6pm. Austin Woman's Club, 708 San Antonio St., 451-6710. \$40.

MESSAGE: A FIVE-SESSION INTRODUCTION Should you decide to enroll in the professional training after taking this community class, \$100 of your tuition will be applied to your first semester. 7-9:30pm. The Lauterstein-Conway Massage School and Clinic, 374-9908, 374-9222 x13. \$130 (includes \$50 space-saving deposit).

BIKES ACROSS BORDERS COMMUNITY BIKE SHOP 6-10pm. Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen, 385-3695. Free. bikesacrossborders@riseup.net.

NEXT STEP: DRIVE OUT THE BUSH REGIME brought to you by the World Can't Wait campaign. Come make lots of noise as they declare a state of emergency during the State of the Union address. Plus now's your chance to catch a ride to the national protest in D.C. on Feb. 4. 7pm. City Hall, 200 W. Second, 974-2250. Free. www.worldcantwait.org.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings) *The President's Last Bang* @ Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm

Wednesday 01

AUSTIN NORML MEETING 9pm. Opal Divine's Freehouse, 700 W. Sixth, 477-3308. info@austinnorml.com, www.austinnorml.com.

day TRIPS

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

Dixondale Farms of Carrizo Springs has been making people around the country cry since 1913. The family-owned business is the largest and oldest producer of onion plants in the U.S.

If you haven't planted your onion transplants by the end of January, it is probably too late for this year. But if you're ready to stick something in the ground or you're planning for next year, the little onion factory in South Texas has the freshest starter plants and best advice.

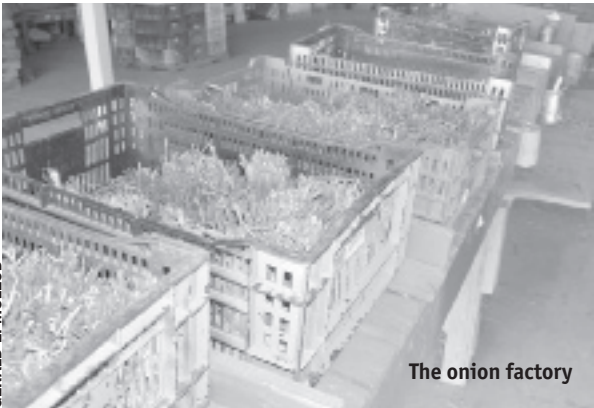
"The general rule for when to plant onions," says Pam Martin, customer service manager of Dixondale Farms, "is to plant them six weeks before average last freeze for your area." Depending on who you ask, the last freeze of the year in Central Texas will happen sometime between March 3 and 28. You might get away with planting your Southern Bell Reds as late as Valentine's Day.

The majority of the millions of plants raised by Dixondale Farms are shipped to nurseries around the country. Backyard gardeners can order the same plants directly from the farm over the Internet or by phone. If you happen to be in the Carrizo Springs area, which is about 120 miles south of San Antonio, stop by the offices and pick up a bunch of 60 to 75 baby onions for only \$1.50.

While you're in the area, ask for a guided tour of the 300-acre farm outside of town to see how the plants are raised and harvested. Onions, a member of the lily family, are grown from seeds, but because their growing season is quite long it is best to begin with transplants. This is particularly true the farther north you get. The staff is ready to recommend varieties that grow in particular regions of the country.

"The best time to visit us is between November and February," Martin says. Her husband, Bill, is a direct descendent of the farm's founder, Joseph McClendon. The business began in the early 1900s when Dimmit County was part of the Winter Garden Region of South Texas. It's hard to drive down one of the highways and imagine that the land now covered with prickly pear cactus and mesquite trees was once advertised in northern markets as a farmer's paradise.

The irrigation of crops with water from artesian wells began in 1884 with a well drilled outside of Carrizo Springs. Five years later a land rush began when T.C. Nye earned \$1,000 dollars an acre with Bermuda onions grown in his fields outside of Cotulla. By 1899, the land developer who helped to establish the town of Del Mar, Calif., came to South Texas to develop more than 2,000 acres of farmland.



GERALD E. MCLEOD

Land that was once used to graze sheep and cattle was cleared and irrigated with water from more than 200 wells drilled around Dimmit County alone. The boom peaked in 1909 when a 40,000-acre development south of Carrizo Springs opened to farm families attracted by low land prices and a growing season that lasted nearly year-round.

The region became one of the most prolific vegetable-growing areas in the country. Onions were soon joined in the fields by strawberries and spinach as well as orchards of fruit trees. The dream of turning the desert into a garden began to collapse as the underground water table dropped from the burden of more and more irrigation wells. By 1916, two extended droughts and depressed farm prices doomed the small farms to failure.

Dimmit County continued to supply the rest of the country with cantaloupes, lettuce, tomatoes, and other vegetables through the 1950s. By 1965, only a few thousand acres were being irrigated for crops. Most of the land had reverted to rangeland that now supports cattle and deer hunters. Since the 1970s, the county's major source of income has been from wells pumping oil rather than water.

Through it all, the Dixondale Farms has grown through five generations. Besides raising cattle, the family grows onions from fall through spring and cantaloupes during the summer. Gardeners can pick up the onion plants at 2007 N. First St. in Carrizo Springs or have the bunches delivered to their mail box by ordering from 877/367-1015 or from **www.dixondalefarms.com**.

763rd in a series. *Day Trips*, Vol. 2, a book of *Day Trips* 101-200, is available for \$8.95, plus \$3.05 for shipping, handling, and tax. Mail to: *Day Trips*, PO Box 33284, South Austin, TX 78704.

out of town

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

CAMEL TREKS re-create the Sahara and the Bedouin way of life in the West Texas desert on a camel-assisted walking tour of a sandy state park. Reservations required, call for times and fees. Monahans Sandhills State Park, Monahans, 432/943-2092. www.texascamelcorps.

CALL FOR ENTRIES for the Live Oak Art Center 2006 Juried Art Exhibition is open to artists of any medium living within 120 miles of Columbus. Entry deadline is Feb. 28. Live Oak Art Center, 1014 Milam, Columbus. www.columbustexas.org.

TRACKS OF THE IRON HORSE pulls together pieces of railroad history from the train's inception to modern day locomotives and routes. Through Jan. 28. George Bush Presidential Library, College Station, 979/691-4000. bushlibrary.tamu.edu.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION combines the gallantry of Colonial America, the serenity of Native American culture, the colors of a Mexican fiesta, and the essence of Mardi Gras for an almost monthlong celebration that includes parades, carnivals, a jalapeño-eating contest, concerts, and more. Thu., Jan. 26-Sun., Feb. 19. Laredo, 956/722-0589. www.wbcalaredo.org.

REGIONAL CELEBRATION OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN ARTISTS presents work by local and regional artists whose creations tell many different stories and views. Jan. 21-Feb. 28. Regional Arts Center, Texarkana, 903/792-8681. www.trahc.org.

DO NOT ASK ME is an exhibit of Mel Chin's latest work, showing a complex, original aesthetic and an extraordinary range of issues that intersect human experience. Jan. 21-April 30. Station Museum of Contemporary Art, 1502

Alabama St., Houston, 713/529-6900. www.stationmuseum.com.

WINTER NIGHT CEREMONIALS offers performances of traditional dances of Pueblos and other Southwestern nations presented by the Kwahadi Indian Dancers. Fri.-Sat., Jan. 20-21, 27-28. Kiva Theater, Kwahadi Kiva Indian Museum, 9151 I-40, Amarillo, 806/335-3175. www.kwahadi.com.

PIECEMAKERS BY THE BAY QUILT GUILD presents this biannual show of more than 100 quilts, along with sewing demonstrations and a trade show. Sat., Jan. 28, 10am-5pm; Sun., Jan. 29, 11am-4pm. Rockport-Fulton High School Commons, 1803 Omohundro St., Rockport, 361/727-0437.

TEXAS ART comes to the Hill Country's newest art venue with a reception and exhibit by a trio of female artists – Margie Crisp, Natasha Downs, and Angilee Wilkerson – showing their paintings, pottery, and photographs. Sat., Jan. 28, 5-7pm (exhibit lasts through mid-March). Kirchman Gallery, 213 N. Nugent, Johnson City, 830/868-9290. Jan. 28 through March 15. www.kirchmangallery.com.

ASIAN FESTIVAL rings in the Year of the Dog with traditional lion and peacock dances, Chinese folk music, and origami and martial arts demonstrations, plus programs that spotlight the Asian animal species that live at the zoo. Sat., Jan. 28. Houston Zoo, Houston, 713/533-6500. Sat., Jan. 28. www.houstonzoo.org.

ARTS ENCOUNTER opens the new year with a discussion of why people go to art galleries and museums. Then Margie Crisp and Bill Montgomery will do a show-and-tell of the printmaking processes and a review of their recent work. Sat., Jan. 28, 10am-5pm; Sun., Jan. 29, 1-5pm. Presentations begin at 1:30 and 3:30pm. Benini Galleries and Sculpture Ranch, Johnson City, 830/868-5244. www.artscountersatbeninis.com.

AUSTIN SINGING INSTITUTE VOCAL LIBERATION CLASS RSVP 7-10pm. Music Lab, 1306 W. Oltorf, 554-8771. \$50. guy@guymonroe.com, www.austinsinginginstitute.net.

AUSTIN WOMEN IN BLACK encourage all those opposed to war to join them in their weekly vigil. Noon-1pm. Texas State Capital Building. www.austinwomeninblack.org.

DEMOCRACY FOR TEXAS MEETUP 7pm. Mother Egan's Irish Pub, 715 W. Sixth, 478-7747. Free.

DIAMOND WAY BUDDHISM MEDITATION MEETING 7pm. Texas Union, UT Campus, 24th & Guadalupe. www.diamondway.org/austin.

INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD HAPPY HOUR 5:30-7pm. Casino el Camino, 517 E. Sixth, 469-9330. www.iww.org.

INTERMEDIATE GERMAN CLASS 6:30-8pm. German-Texan Heritage Society, 507 E. 10th, 482-0927. \$60, 12 weeks (\$50, members).

LINKING LANGUAGES SPANISH CLUB Open to everyone. 7pm. Ventana del Soul, 1834 E. Oltorf, 263-1465. Free.

NO KIDDING! GAME NIGHT 7-9pm. Central Market North, 4001 N. Lamar, 294-7930. Free. www.austinnokidding.com.

THE YEAR AHEAD IN BUSINESS will be discussed by Tim Crowley, the chairman of the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce. RSVP 7-8:30am. Darrell K. Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium, University of Texas at Austin, 512/479-9460. \$15. mbcaustin@mbcaustin.org, www.mbcaustin.org.

TRADITIONAL MAYAN CALENDAR STUDY with Carlos Cedillo. 6pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. Free with cafe purchase. www.cosmicjaguar.com, www.rutamaya.net.

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts)
North Hills Gallery

Thursday 02

BACK PAIN SEMINAR Find out what you get when you put your achy back in a room with a neurosurgeon, a chiropractor, and a physical therapist. Preregistration required. 6:30-8pm. Seton Medical Center, 1201 W. 38th, 324-4456. Free.

FIRST THURSDAY Music, food, and shopping. (See Club Listings) From the river, south on South Congress. Free.

HOT SCIENCE – COOL TALKS: TO INFINITY AND BEYOND UT mathematics professor Michael Starbird will be lecturing on the mysteries of infinity – plus, fun games and refreshments! (Live Webcast, 7pm.) 5:45-8:30pm. Welch Bldg., Rm. 2.224, 24th & Speedway. www.esi.utexas.edu/outreach/lectures.html.

LIBERTY DOLLAR OF AUSTIN MEETING 6pm. Opal Divine's Freehouse, 700 W. Sixth, 477-3308. Free.

BOARD GAME NIGHT AT VENTANA DEL SOUL 6pm. Ventana del Soul, 1834 E. Oltorf, 707-7447. Free.

COMMUNITY DINNER Volunteer prep, 4-6pm; community dinner, 6-7pm. Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen, 385-3695. Free. (See Thursday 01/26)

EMANCIPET FREE THURSDAYS 8am, check-in begins (first come, first served). Emancipet, 601 E. Airport, 587-SPAY. Free. (See Thursday 01/26)

INSIDE BOOKS PROJECT VOLUNTEER NIGHT 6-10pm. Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen, 385-3695.

ITALIAN LANGUAGE CLASSES 6-9pm. 3840 Far West Blvd., 345-8941. erlinggenberg@austin.rr.com, www.geocities.com/atasteofitalyinaustin/atasteofitalyinaustin.

THE STOREHOUSE 10am-2pm. The Storehouse, 111-A Ramble Ln. #120. Free. info@the-storehouse.org. (See Thursday 01/26)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings)
Murder in Harlem @ Bass Lecture Hall, 7pm

Ongoing Events

AUSTIN UNDER 40 Nominate those young(ish)bloods who have made substantial contributions to this town with both their professional and community services. Nomination deadline: Jan. 25. Free. www.austinunder40.org.

LOG HOME & TIMBER FRAME EXPO Dreaming of a cozy log cabin you can call your own? Make that dream a reality with the help of the handy craftsmen gathered all together, here, for you. Fri., Jan. 27, 11am-7pm; Sat., Jan. 28, 10am-7pm; Jan. 29, 10am-4pm. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd., 888-LOG-EXPO. \$22 (\$12, daily; free, kids up to age 15). www.logexpo.com.

CAPITAL METRO'S DUMP THE PUMP CONTEST Step one: Stop ruining the world with your gas consumption. Step two: Ride the bus. Step three: Write about your experience in 250 words or less, and you might win an iPod, a newspaper subscription, and a spill-free coffee mug! Send your essay, with your name, address, phone number, and e-mail address (if you have one) to: Capital Metro Transportation Authority, 2910 E. Fifth, Austin, TX 78702. Deadline: Thu., Jan. 26.

PAYING FOR COLLEGE BUS TOUR is stopping in Austin to help Latino families navigate the college-tuition maze. Learn the ins and outs of grants, loans, and federal aid, and don't miss your chance to win a scholarship – there's one available per workshop. Thu., Feb. 2, 6-8:30pm, Johnston High School, 1012 Arthur Stiles; Fri., Feb. 3, 10am-12:30pm, Travis High School, 1211 E. Oltorf; Sat., Feb. 4, 10am-12:30pm, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, 1206 E. Ninth. 877/840-8224. Free. www.thesalliemafund.org.

INTERCOLLEGIATE STUDIES INSTITUTE FELLOWSHIPS are available to undergraduate seniors (who are graduating) as well as graduate students. Application deadline: Feb. 15. 800/526-7022. fellowships@isi.org, www.isifellowships.org.

FEMA DEADLINE FOR HURRICANE EVACUEES' HOTEL PAYMENTS FEMA cuts off hotel/motel-bill payment for evacuees on Feb. 7. Those of you who need an extension must call by Jan. 30. 800/621-FEMA. www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=22400.

MIDWINTER LECTURES See Web site for specifics on this 57-year-old lecture series. Mon., Jan. 30-Wed. Feb. 1. Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, 100 E. 27th, 472-6736. www.austinseminary.edu/news/releases/807.php.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY BUILDERS EXHIBIT honors notable African-Americans, including Anderson High School's award-winning band from the 1930s through 1950s and its director, Benjamin Lee Joyce. Through Feb. 28. Scarbrough Building, 101 W. Sixth, 477-7884.

SOIL TESTS Texas A&M is offering reduced-rate tests to find out your soil's nutrient content for the spring planting season: Pick up your kits (don't forget to drop off your samples by Feb. 14) at the following participating nurseries: Barton Springs Nursery, Callahan's, Garden-Ville, Great Outdoors, Howard Nursery, Natural Gardener, Pots & Plants, Red Barn Garden Center, and Round Rock Gardens. \$6.

GIRL SCOUT COOKIES go on sale this week, and the wee Scouts need some old(ish) folks to count the dough. For volunteer information, see the Web site. www.girlscouts-lonestar.org.

Sports

BY MARK FAGAN

THE HOME TEAMS

LONESTAR ROLLERGIRLS You've seen them on TV, on hugeass billboards, and blowing up the Internet with banner ads all over the place; now see 'em live and in person. This bout features the Holy Rollers vs. the Putas del Fuego. Sun., Jan. 29, 6pm (doors). The Thunderdome at the Crockett Center, 10601 N. Lamar (across from Chuy's). \$15. www.bggw.com.

AUSTIN ICE BATS Live music from Grady following the Saturday game. Vs. Fort Worth: Fri., Jan. 27, 7:30pm. Vs. Oklahoma City: Sat., Jan. 28, 7:30pm. Travis County Expo Center, 7311 Decker Ln., 977-PUCK. \$10-35. www.icebats.com.

AUSTIN WRANGLERS See box for more info. Vs. Las Vegas: Fri., Jan. 27, 7:30pm. Frank Erwin Center. \$15-\$40. www.austinwranglers.com.

AUSTIN TOROS A free performance by the Spazmatics follows the Jan. 26 game. Vs. Arkansas: Thu.-Fri., Jan. 26-27, 7:30pm. Vs. Albuquerque: Thu., Feb. 2, 7:30pm. Austin Convention Center, 236-8333. \$8-27. www.nba.com/dleague/austin.

ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY Women's Basketball Vs. Texas A&M-International: Wed., Feb. 1, 6pm. www.stedwards.edu/athletic/athletic.htm.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS Women's Basketball Vs. Oklahoma State: Sat. Jan. 28, 3pm. Frank Erwin Center. **Baseball** Alumni game/fan fest: Sat., Jan. 28, 1pm. Disch-Falk Field. **Women's Tennis** Vs. Northwestern: Sat., Jan. 28, 11am. Penick-Allison Tennis Center www.texasports.com.

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY Women's Basketball Vs. Howard Payne University: Thu., Jan. 26, 5:30pm. Vs. Sul Ross University: Sat., Jan. 28, 1pm. **Men's Basketball** Vs. Howard Payne University: Thu., Jan. 26, 7:30pm. Vs. Sul Ross University: Sat., Jan. 28, 3pm. athletics.concordia.edu/athletics.htm.

AUSTIN AREA HIGH SCHOOL RUGBY CLUB is a member of the Texas Rugby Union and participates in the high school division. All matches are played on the weekends from late January through the end of April. No experience is required to participate and all newcomers are welcome. Contact Bill Taute at billtaute@mindspring.com. Practices: Tuesdays and Thursday, 6pm. Travis High School, 940-0666. www.aahsrugby.com.

RECREATION & FITNESS

TEAM TEXAS ADULT SWIM TEAM Swimming training for adults for fitness or preparation for swimming competition, open water swims, or triathlons. Mon., Wed., Fri., 7:30am, 8:30am, and noon on Mon., Wed., and Thu. Dell Jewish Community Association of Austin, 327-1280. www.swimttex.com.

THUNDER HILL RACEWAY There are races every Saturday night at this paved oval racetrack in South Austin. Saturdays, 7pm. 24801 I-35, Kyle, 512/262-1352. www.thunderhillraceway.com.

WEEKLY CHESS TOURNAMENT All are welcome at this weekly tournament. Cash prizes, yo. Mondays, 7pm, Dobie Mall, second floor food court. \$1 entry fee.

RUTA MAYA CAFE YOGA CLASSES All classes are free with a purchase at the cafe. Hatha Flow Yoga: Wednesdays and Fridays, 8am; Thursdays, 9am; Saturdays, noon. Vinyasa Yoga: Tuesdays, 9am. Kids Yoga: Saturdays, 10am. Capoeira Angola Class: Saturdays, 2pm. All ages. Ruta Maya, 3601-D S. Congress, 707-9637. www.rutamaya.net.

THE CO-ED GO RED GOLF TOURNAMENT is being held to raise awareness and collect funds for the American Heart Association. This is a two-person-team, nine-hole scramble. Sun., Jan. 29, 3pm. Harvey Penick Golf Campus. \$30. www.armadillogolf.com.

CAPOEIRA WITH KABULA 2-4pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. Free with cafe purchase.

AUSTIN ROCK GYM LADIES NIGHT Get free rock climbing instruction and meet other ladies new to the sport at this weekly event. See the Web site for directions. Mondays, 7:30pm. Both locations. Free. www.austinrockgym.com.

HILL COUNTRY OUTDOORS Learn more about Austin's most active outdoors and social club. More than 40 events featured each month, including hiking, camping, biking, kayaking, sports leagues, socials, and more. Mon., Jan. 30, 6:30pm. Upstairs at Opal Divine's, 3601 S. Congress Ste. K100, 707-0237. Free. www.hillcountryoutdoors.com.

WINGS 'N MORE BOWL The Big 1530 ESPN Radio hosts this extreme wing-eating competition featuring the top 12 wing-eaters from the previous two qualifying rounds. Competitors will have 15 minutes and 30 seconds to slam as many wings as they can, and then a lifetime to recover. Thu., Feb. 2, 7pm. Wings 'N More, 1200 W. Howard Ln., 989-6673. www.espnastin.com.

BRAZILIAN JIU-JITSU FOR KIDS Kids 7-13, come participate in a multi-cultural fitness and self-defense experience! Learn the ground-grappling sport honed in Brazil from Japanese Judo roots. Saturdays, 9:30am. Austin Jiu-Jitsu, 301 Inwood Rd., 423-1010. austiniujiitsu.com.

Longhorn freshman defenders **Stephanie Logterman** and **Kasey Moore** are getting some valuable experience this week down in Mexico – playing on the **U.S. Under-20 National Team** trying to qualify for the world championships being held in Russia this summer. Austinite Logterman (Westwood High) is one of the more experienced national team players, from last season's U19 campaign, while Moore is earning her first national team caps. The U.S. swept its first-round games fairly easily, beating Jamaica, Surinam, and El Salvador, and must win just one of its last two games to qualify for Russia.

The grownups are alright, too: the U.S. Women won the prestigious Four Nations championship this week, beating host China, 2-0, in the final game. The amazing **Kristine Lilly**, playing the 302nd game of her 18-year international career, scored both goals, and finished as the tournament's top scorer and MVP. – Nick Barbaro

Soccer WATCH

AUSTIN WRANGLERS

The 20th anniversary season of the Arena Football League gets things started right here in the ATX with the Wranglers taking on the Las Vegas Gladiators. Roster shake-ups have been rampant in the off-season and the Wranglers organization is no exception. Most notably, the Wranglers have named ex-Longhorn **Chance Mock** as their backup to starting QB **John Fitzgerald**. Hopefully Chance will see some playing time in his rookie campaign as he adjusts to the AFL style of play. While **Rod Babers** didn't make the final cut, UT alumni **Greg Brown** and **Aaron Humphrey** will be suiting up in the navy blue and red colors of the Wranglers. Fans will also be delighted to know that standout WR/LB **Darrin Chiaverini** will be returning to the fold. The AFL has added two new teams this season, the Kansas City Brigade and the Utah Blaze, but, unfortunately, the New Orleans VooDoo are suspending play this season due to Hurricane Katrina. If Tom Benson decides to eventually skip town and take the Saints with him, the NOLA will need the VooDoo in action more than ever. The first 10,000 fans in attendance at Friday's game will receive a free Wranglers schedule poster, and all in attendance should enjoy some live football action with tickets starting as low as \$7.50 and discounts available for students and members of the military. Vs. Las Vegas, Fri., Jan. 27, 7:30pm. Frank Erwin Center. – Mark Fagan

FronteraFest Short Fringe, Week Two

Hyde Park Theatre, Jan. 19

For an evening that included a mutilated cat, a self-loathing writer, and the selling of one's soul, the second Thursday in the 2006 FronteraFest Short Fringe proved surprisingly upbeat.

The unfortunate feline appeared in "Terminals," a tag-team effort by Robert Berry and Cris Edwards, who alternated sharing a story that began with a guy trying to start his car after work only to find a cat caught in the engine. Though badly injured, the animal survives, and its rescue leads to a daisy chain of other narratives involving another cat that defied the odds and lived, a journalist who gave up his life in New York to report on the war in Iraq and died, and an eBay auction to name the rescued cat that was won by the wife of the journalist. The simplicity of the storytelling and its unlikely intersection of lives, animal and human, across the globe, made this an intriguing and wistful work that echoed in my head long after its own termination.

The writer was the protagonist of Guillermo De Leon's short drama "SPIC," who is forced by a case of writer's block to confront his feelings about his Latino heritage. An alter ego taunts him with racial slurs and prods him to admit that he's ashamed of his brown skin, a fact that he denies until he's made to recall episodes from his youth and to speak candidly to his lighter-skinned wife about his attraction to her. It was clear from the outset where the piece was going, and it ultimately delivered no surprises, but the conviction with which it was written and acted kept it engaging.

Two of the slots were taken over by improv groups, both dabbling in long-form, in which a single suggestion is solicited from the audience and used as a springboard for a free-form

series of scenes. Up first was ColdTowne Heroes, a troupe from New Orleans that's taken up residence in Austin since Katrina. They took the word "quaffle" (no doubt from some eager Harry Potter fan), but the word's origins in the J.K. Rowling series – it's a ball used in the game Quidditch – must have eluded them, as the young wizard never appeared or was referred to in their scenes. Instead, they meandered through bits with fathers and sons arguing over farms, kids searching for a lost pet, and the like, the highlight being when Tami Nelson became a cosmopolitan lush with a cocktail in one hand and a cigarette in the other observing a barn raising. The sheer comic incongruity of urbane socialite in rural setting – Dorothy Parker slumming among the Amish – was choice, but her slurred dialogue with the unseen rubes was hilarious, coming from an effortlessly complete character. Alas, while every troupe member showed talent and got their share of laughs, their scenelets frequently stalled out when the improvisers couldn't seem to get on the same page in creating a scene. Rather than build on an idea or moment that was already established, these performers seemed in a hurry to introduce a new idea or take the scene in a zanier direction. The same was true for Austin troupe Wooden Nickel when it took the suggestion "egg beater." Clear talent, clever ideas, more than a few laughs, but many moments reminiscent of a couple dancing when both partners are trying to lead.

The prize of the evening belonged to Hank Schwemmer's "Alternate Routes to the Crossroads." One of the unsung

heroes of FronteraFest, Schwemmer always takes his 25 minutes of theatrical possibility and runs with it, playing with performance forms and expectations in sly, smart, witty, but ultimately personal ways, and this year was no exception. His solo white boy's treatise on the blues took us from a list of what the blues is not to a comparison of the careers of Robert Johnson and B.B. King (prompting a new consideration of the question of who sold whose soul to the devil) to a thorough accounting of all the basses and guitars that Schwemmer has owned and their names – all feminine – and their, ahem, attributes to a contemplation in unearthly blue light of what possession of one's soul truly means. With intelligence and rich humor, this piece found blessed intersections of music and love, of history and hearts, of myth and the things that we hold close. When it was over, we were all standing at the crossroads.

– Robert Faires



Robert Berry and Cris Edwards

Theatre

OPENING

AUSTIN CABARET THEATRE: KAREN MASON

The award-winning chanteuse takes a break from Broadway gigs to set this little river city on fire with torch and talent. (See "Sweetest of Nights," p.31, for more.) *Thu.-Fri., Jan. 26-27, 8:30pm. The Mansion at Judges Hill, 1900 Rio Grande. 453-2287. \$40. www.austincabaret.org.*

SEX AND REVENGE, OR ANOTHER NIGHT AT THE OPERA is where Georgetown's Southwestern University's Opera Theatre presents excerpts from the likes of *Don Giovanni*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, and *Die Fledermaus*. *Fri.-Sat., Jan. 27-28, 7pm. Jones Theatre, Southwestern Campus. Free.*

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The *Austin Chronicle* is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Feb. 10 issue is Monday, Jan. 30.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials.

Send submissions to the attention of the appropriate writer (see roster below). Mail to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin 78765, fax 458-6910, or e-mail:

Wayne Alan Brenner, theatre, comedy.
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Benné Rockett, visual arts. art@austinchronicle.com.

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, listings editor.

brenner@austinchronicle.com.

TEN LITTLE INDIANS Agatha Christie's "most ingenious mystery" returns to the stage, courtesy of Onstage Theatre Company under the direction of Douglas Taylor. Lana Dieterich and Michael Stuart are among the talented actors featured, which bodes only well for this suspense-filled exercise in sleuthing. *Jan. 28-Feb. 12. Sat.-Sun., 1pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 445-9866. www.onstagetheatreco.org.*

THEATRE OF YUGEN will introduce Austin to Japan's classical dramatic forms, Kyogen and Noh. With colorful costumes, stylized vocal and physical movements, and performance in English, the company brings these 600-year-old theatre forms to life onstage, addressing greed, vanity, and the pleasure of outwitting someone. *Kyogen: Sat., Jan. 28, 8pm. Noh: Sun., Jan. 29, 2:30pm. Helm Fine Arts Center, 2900 Bunbury Run (St. Stephen's School), 329-0964. Free.*

★ **LEE STETSON AS JOHN MUIR** Lee Stetson stars as the "Father of our National Parks" in two one-man shows about the celebrated environmentalist, pre-

sented by Wild Basin Preserve and the Sierra Club. "Conversation with a Tramp," *Sat., Jan. 28, 7pm.* "The Spirit of John Muir," *Sun., Jan. 29, 2pm. Wild Basin Preserve, 805 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 926-7312. \$15 (\$12.50, in advance). www.balinsky.com/muir.*

CLOSING

SHEAR MADNESS The longest-running comedy in Zachary Scott Theatre's history is back, under the direction of Alice Wilson and Dave Steakley. Paul Portner's script provides murder among the curlers in this funny whodunit where you play armchair detective, uncover the secrets, and help an outrageous cast of characters solve the crime amid a trendy Austin hair salon. Now with Robert Newell! *Held over through Jan. 29. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Zachary Scott Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541 x1. \$28-38. www.zachscott.com.*

WHEN PIGS FLY Naughty Austin shreds the boundaries of extravagance and camp with this musical

▶ **To pee or not to pee? That's the question in *Urinetown*, the dystopian musical comedy now splashing across the stage at Zachary Scott Theatre.**



comedy revue directed by Blake Yelavich from a script by Dick Gallagher, Howard Crabtree, and Mark Waldrop. Mermaids, showgirls, gargoyles, and more. Totally over the top – any top. *Through Jan. 28. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Arts on Real, 2826 Real (behind Flatbed Press), 472-2787. www.artsonreal.com.*

ONGOING

FRONTERAFEST 2006 It's that time of year again, when spunky & funky Hyde Park Theatre becomes vessel to an entire community presenting brilliant or misbegotten or sometimes even simply WTF offerings of theatrical arts, of comedy improv, of slam poetry, of song and dance and multimedia performance in 25-minute increments (during the Short Fringe) and full-length portions (during the Long Fringe) and so on. New to the Austin theatre scene? This monthlong unjuried collection of entertainment will surprise you with its diversity and will likely please more often than disappoint. (And those Best of the Week and Best of the Fest nights? Not to be missed.) Been a few times around the block as regards local thespiana? Then what you need most is an end to this intro and a schedule of events – even a S.O.E. that is apt to change at any moment, as the fast-paced world of Frontera presentations intersects with our own domain's less frenetic madness for the next several weeks. Right now, while suggesting that checking the Hyde Park Web site is a *damned good thing to do*, we tender this look at what's up in the coming weeks. Thus:

Short Fringe: Tue.-Sat., 8pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 479-PLAY. www.hydeparktheatre.com.

Thu., Jan. 26: "Hot Dogs at the Eiffel Tower" by **Maggie Gallant**. "Please Come Back" by **Charley Devany**. The insectile philosophizing of **Jon Daries's** "The Great White Ant." **Lisa deLarios** presents "The Dopamine Project." **Eirik "Big Poppa E" Ott** declaims his "Wussy Boy Manifesto II: Electric Boogaloo."

Fri., Jan. 27: The very wise **Stephen Pruitt** presents his new "Catastrophe Theory." "The Adventures of

MUSEUM of EPHEMERATA presents:
MachinesMimesis™
 A WALK-THRU MUSIC INSTALLATION AT THE
CATHEDRAL of JUNK
 4422 LAREINA DRIVE, S. AUSTIN
 JAN. 28TH, 2006, 6-9PM
 \$5-8 SUGGESTED DONATION
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 PROJECTION by Lou Anna Vega, & COSTUMES
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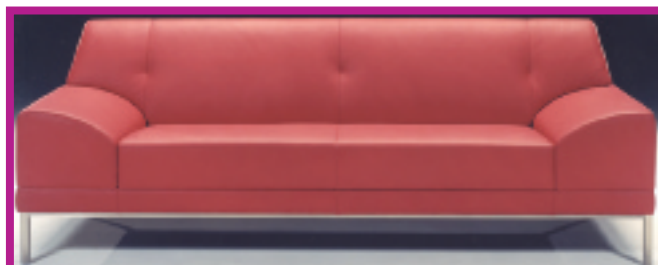
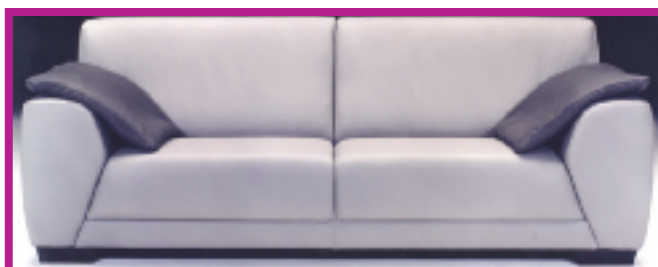
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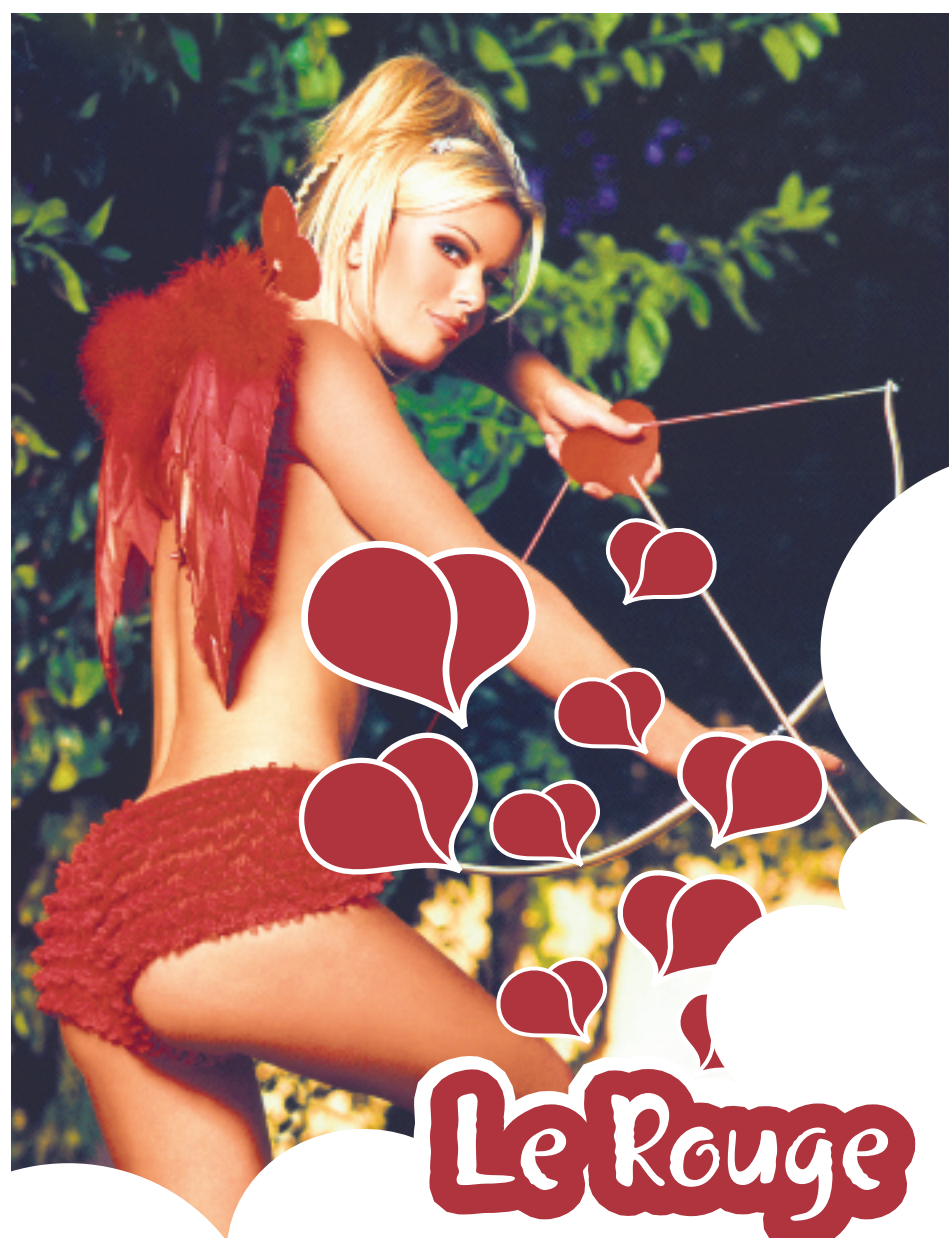
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House and Garden

Austin Playhouse, through Feb. 19

A man’s home is his castle, so they say. But when that castle is bombarded with buffoonish characters while the man splits his house with his wife and its landscape with his mistresses, then it’s safe to say all bets are off. *House and Garden*, Alan Ayckbourn’s coupled comedies performed in tandem by a single cast, are really one show divided between two stages. Austin Playhouse has arranged the pair with *House*, directed by Don Toner, playing on its main stage, while *Garden*, directed by Lara Toner, runs simultaneously on its cabaret-sized second stage.

Both plays revolve around Trish and Teddy Platt, who live on a country estate close to London with their daughter Sally. While the wife snubs her husband in *House*, he goes gallivanting in *Garden* with Joanna, the wife of his neighbor Giles. Teddy is expecting an old chum, Gavin Ryng-Mayne, to offer him a political position during a luncheon, which happens to be taking place on

the same day as the garden fete being presented by an obscure French actress to whom Teddy takes a shine. If that weren’t enough to distract you, perhaps the subplots between their kids, the housekeepers, and the event coordinators will. For some farces, a madhouse is anticipated and welcome. For a farce dealt between stages, it’s showing off, as if Ayckbourn were playing a nasty card trick in which one hand has a full house while you know his other hand has a straight flush.

Through this imposed juxtaposition, we do gain perspective on the characters according to how often or how little we see them. The heart is in *House*, a far more sophisticated piece, with pranks sparked by miscommunication, two people talking at the same time, people ignoring Teddy, and Teddy talking when no one is there. The actors exit to and fro with the convenience of practically never having to change out of character.

Aside from the hired help’s clowning and the unintelligible French (even by fluent standards), Austin Playhouse’s company does not fail in developing some broad characters.

a Boy Named Goo and a Girl Named Belle or How to Choose Your Own Adventure” by **Jay Asterman**. “Our Employees Are Our Top Priority” by **Jodi Leckbee**. **Hoover’s Blanket** proffers some “Fresh Strawberries.” **Misty Valenta**, **Elizabeth Krieg**, **Javier Arista**, and **Melissa Jackson** stage a dance piece called “Sidewalks Speak Truths.”

Sat., Jan. 28: **Best of the Week**

Tue., Jan. 31: **Tom Doyal** reads “Stories of Hulsey Country, Texas.” “Bonded Logic” is **Patrick Lovejoy**’s theatrical dance piece. **Jeremy O. Torres** presents Heiner Muller’s “Hamletmachine.” **Changing Lives Youth Theatre** performs their “Let Your Voice Be Heard.” **Da-Shade Moonbeam** performs a combination of poetry and martial arts.

Wed., Feb. 1: **Paul Bullock** provides a contact high with his “Manfred’s Marijuana Monologue.” **Greg Romero**, composer **Mike Vernusky**, **Sermini**, and **Jason Tremblay** team up to present “The Eulogy Project.” **Sheila Rinear** looks at the Katrina aftermath with “Mission Impossible.” A fellow named, we’re told, **John P. Funk** offers up his “CosmicFunk Soundtrack.” “Male Call” is absurdist sketch comedy from the **Plurals**.

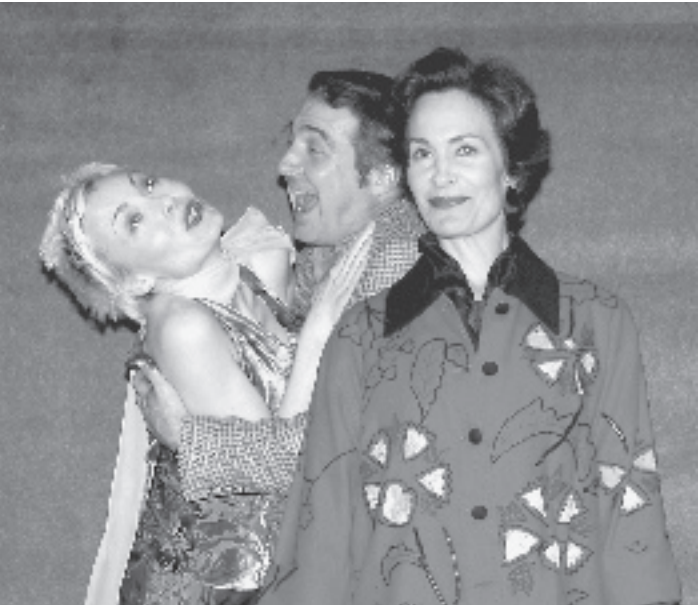
Thu., Feb. 2: “Aucun Espoir pour l’Homme” is a “junk romance” by **Rocky Hopson**. **Isabella Russell-Ides** presents “In a God Box.” “More Mommy Confessions” is **Rhonda Kulhanek**’s series of original monologues. **Big Poppa E** is back onstage to present **Michael P. Whalen**, **Matthew John Conley**, **David Hendler**, and **Danny Strack** in “Haiku Death Match II: 3-D!” **Natalie George** explains how “Jesus Stole My Classic Rock Station.”

Fri., Feb. 3: “The Rat of Glen Rose” is captured by **Justin Finney**. **Steve Barney** animates an entire “Puppet Government.” “Little Dog on the Prairie” is presented by **Rain Nox**. We don’t know what **Katherine Catmull**’s gonna perform yet, but we’ll bet it’s worth watching. **Allan Baker**’s “Five Minutes.”

Sat., Feb. 4: **Best of the Week**.

Okay, and then there’s the **Long Fringe**, more expansive (say about an hour, an hour and a half) works of theatre umbrella’d under the Fronterafest aegis, and presented by hopeful up-and-comers or crafty and seasoned pros at *The Blue Theatre*, 916 Springdale. Here’s what’s opening in the coming week:

Dance Carousel is an anthology of kinesics from local choreographers, curated by Spank Dance Company’s Ellen Bartel, and about which you can read more in this issue’s Dance listings. Sat., Jan. 28, noon. Sun., Jan. 29, 1:45pm. \$8.



Joanna, played with vulnerability by (the only English filly) Bernadette Nason, goes from peaceable to absolutely bonkers in *Garden*, which is not really Joanna’s play in the way that *House* is Trish’s play. Babs George’s Trish is better than just an updated forsaken Nora Helmer, with more sense and poise as a headstrong wife. She is the show champion, proclaiming that she refuses to “go down with the ship” of past ill-fated wives in the Platt family.

Witnessing two endings certainly did satisfy all the loose ends. We find out what happens to Trish, and finally in the extension we find out what really happens to everyone else. If they were both performed back-to-back on the same stage, it would surely be a four-hour show. The best bits, of course, are in *House*, so if they showed *Garden* second, the audience might not come back. – *Patti Hadad*

Also, **Bring Your Own Venue** is where troupes are umbrella’d within the Frontera festivities, even though they, the troupes’ projects, occur outside the two major venues. Like this:

Habitually Me is Ben Prager’s comic monologue in which we witness the writer/performer in the throes of a midlife crisis. He’s been called “The Poor Man’s Larry David,” and you’ll understand why if you catch this wry look into “a life of mediocre accomplishments and paralyzing indecision.” Fri.-Sat., Jan. 27-28, 10pm. *The Off Center*, 2211-A Hidalgo. \$8.

assimulation explores the intersections of ethnic and sexual trauma through fragmented narrative, iconic image, movement, gesture, and sound. As written and performed by Sarah Myers and directed by Jaclyn Pryor. Thu., Jan. 26, 11pm. Sun., Jan. 29, 2 & 8pm. *The Off Center*, 2211-A Hidalgo. \$10.

TWO INTO WAR: THE GIFTS OF WAR AND THE RETREATING WORLD Two one-acts from Different Stages create this double feature of a show. Fraser Grace’s *The Gifts of War* highlights a “tipsy Neapolitan woman musing on the recent war in Troy, the cleverness of the Greeks, and the stupidity of the Trojans in falling for the wooden horse.” *The Retreating World* is Naomi Wallace’s tale of an Iraqi pigeon-fancier, drafted into Saddam Hussein’s army, who has to sell his birds for others to eat and his books for food and medicine. Both plays are directed by ACoT’s Executive Director Latifah Taormina; *Gifts* features Hildreth England, *World* features Ben Wolfe. *Through Feb. 11. Thu.-Sat., 8pm.* Extra show: Sun., Jan. 29, 2pm. *Play! Theatre*, 1204 Cedar, 474-8497. \$5-20.

THE GIN GAME A little south of Austin, D.L. Coburn’s Pulitzer Prize-winning, two-character play – about the ongoing relationship of two residents in a retirement home – gets a renewal at the Wimberley Players’ Greenhouse Theatre, under the direction of Betty Pollard. See their Web site for directions. *Through Feb. 5. Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm.* 512/847-0575. \$13. www.wimberleyplayers.org.

A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE is that Tennessee Williams play you may have heard of, as if it had been produced somewhere, maybe once or twice, before. Here, the Way Off Broadway Community Players stage it under the direction of their Gary Hamilton, sure to make it a real Stanley steamer. *Through Feb. 4. Fri.-Sat., 8pm.* Extra show: *Thu., Feb. 2, 8pm.* 10960 E. Crystal Falls Pkwy., Leander. www.wobcp.org.

HOUSE AND GARDEN Alan Ayckbourn didn’t just write a pair of clever, intricate British comedies here; no, he also *linked* them, such that the two separate plays are performed simultaneously by one cast in two adjacent venues: As characters exit a scene in *House*, they often walk right into a scene in *Garden*, and vice versa. With the incredible timing et cetera this calls for, who’d dare to stage such a spectacle? Ladies and gentlemen, it’s Don Toner and Austin Playhouse. Catch *House* first, then return to see the other part of the story in *Garden*. **House and Garden: Through Feb. 19. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. *Austin Playhouse*, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 476-0084. \$20-25 (two-show discounts available). www.austinplayhouse.com.**

★ **GET YOUR WAR ON!** The Rude Mechanicals did this *last year*, you say? Staged this live rendition of the David Rees comic strips that was so painfully funny that people in the audience were, like, *wetting themselves* and actually screaming with laughter? (Well, except for that one right-wing Republican guy who showed up by accident and had a total stress-induced coronary trombone in the third row, such that his superior vena cava burst through the wall of his chest and began wriggling like a Water Weasel and spattering the Off Center walls [and several audience members] with gushets of vile crimson jelly until an EMS team could subdue the wayward heart-tube and transport its ashen, shivering owner to Seton’s Crisis Ward For Extremely Compromised Imperialists.) Yes, well, that popular show was a mere *workshop production*; no, seriously; and now here’s the real thing, fully staged by the Rudes under the direction of Shawn Sides, according to the adaptation of Kirk “Very Smart” Lynn. Recommended. *Through Feb. 4. Thu.-Sat., 8pm.* *The Off Center*, 2211-A Hidalgo, 476-7833. \$10-18; pay what you can, Thursdays). www.rudemechs.com.

DARK GODDESS Not another one just like the other one, but a *brand new* gathering of goddesses from diverse mythologies from around the world. And this show, filled (as always) with appropriately evocative music and dance, celebrates them as their incarnations appear on stage in aspects and rituals sure to incite responses of one kind or another. The pantheon: Hekate, the Furies, Ma’at, Changing Woman, Maeve, Hel, Freya, Arianrhod, Y’Moya, Erzulie, and Santisima Muerte. Conceived and directed by Bonnie Cullum for Vortex Repertory Company. *Through Feb. 25. Thu.-Sun., 8pm.* *The Vortex*, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. \$10-30. www.vortexrep.org.

URINETOWN! It’s only the funniest, most irreverent musical to be staged in decades, right, the one that split the Big Apple to its core with laughter? Based in a future where the privilege to pee is regulated and charged for by a single, malevolent corporation, this bit of off-kilter brilliance by Mark Hollman and Greg Kotis turns the Zach Scott stage into a dizzying dystopia of music, song, and the fight against micro-turfational repression. Directed by Dave Steakley, with musical direction by Allen “Tiny Pirate” Robertson and choreography by Robin Lewis. *Through March 12. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Sun., 2:30pm.* *Zachary Scott Theatre*, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541 x1. \$33-40 (student discounts available). www.zachscott.com.

AUDITIONS

THE BEARD OF AVON Norman Blumensaadt is directing this Amy Freed play for Different Stages in March and April; he needs seven men (ages 25-50) and one woman (age 30-40). Call for appt. *Mon.-Tue., Jan. 30-31, 7-9:30pm.* *Dougherty Arts Center*, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 453-7943. www.ci.austin.tx.us/dougherty

MANZI: THE ADVENTURES OF YOUNG CESAR CHAVEZ Teatro Humanidad seeks three male and three female actors (open age range) with singing ability, and a guitarist for this Jose Cruz Gonzalez’ musical children’s play about the youth of the civil rights legend, to be directed by David Yeakle, to tour regionally during the spring. Prepare a song for audition. Cold readings, too. E-mail or call for appt. 389-0892. lcp@teatrohumanidad.com.

YELLOW TAPE HEATHERS? The Yellow Tape Construction Company is casting for a new Eighties musical inspired by the movie *Heathers*. Actors, singers, dancers, all of y’all come & get your Pat Benatar on. Or your (we imagine) Steve Perry, for that matter. Audition with eight bars of your fave 80s song (a capella). Actors/singers: *Wed., Feb. 8, 7-9:30pm; Sat., Feb. 11, 10am-2pm.* Dancers: *Mon., Feb. 13, 7-9:30pm.* *Dougherty Arts Center*, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 466-5221. Jonathon@yellowtape.org.

THEATRE CALL BOARD

EXTRAVAGREENZA Austin Green Art and the Umlauf Sculpture Garden seek original works exploring issues and ideas about what it means to be “green” in today’s world. Pieces can range from solo to ensemble pieces not to exceed 20 minutes in length. Chosen selections, performed in April, will be

compensated. Call or see their Web site for more. **Deadline:** Feb. 9. 743-4245. www.austingreenart.org
ZACH SCOTT: PROJECT INTERACT (AND GENERAL) INTERNS NEEDED Interns will assist company manager with all aspects of rehearsal and show preparation; assist in the planning and organization of the first weeks of touring; assist Project InterAct Director with faxing, e-mailing, and mailing of materials to promote touring show. The job is 10-12 hours per week for 12 weeks.

ZACH will now offer internships in all departments all year long, available for current college students as well as recent graduates and for people with theatrical experience who are looking for new opportunities to build their skills. Internships available in: production department, arts administration & management, project InterAct, theatre for young audiences, teaching assistants development department, scenic department, and more.

Submit a letter of intent (with "Intern" in the subject line) along with a full résumé to: interns@zachscott.com.

ARTSPARK 2006: DIRECTORS The HBMG Foundation is looking for innovative, collaborative theatre directors for a six-month development process including production of five new plays. The positions are paid. Call for information. *Thu., Feb. 2, 9am-5pm. 248-9915.*

Comedy

IN THE CLUBS

CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB 8120 Research Blvd. #100, 467-2333. www.capcitycomedy.com.

Gabriel Iglesias is fixing to open up the biggest can of comedy whup-ass you've ever been blown away by. He's been racking up the credits from Nickelodeon to Leno to Comedy Central and he's been filling places much bigger than clubs, but this weekend he's gonna hold court at Cap City – so you'd best make your reservations early, hey? *Jan. 26-29. Thu., 8pm; Fri-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm; Sun., 8pm. \$18.*

Open Mic Comedy Sit back and relax with a cold one while you watch seasoned pros and up-and-comers knocking themselves out humor-wise for your benefit (and to benefit the Austin Children's Shelter). *Sundays, 8pm. \$2 (free, college students).*

The Chinaman Yes, it's the hilarious Mark Britten, voice actor extraordinaire and all 'round funny guy-of-distinctly-Asian-heritage, returning triumphantly to Cap City. This time his openers are Jesse Pangelinan and Lisa Delarious. *Jan. 31-Feb. 4. Tue-Thu., 8pm; Fri-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm. \$5.50-13.*

ESTHER'S POOL 525 E. Sixth, 320-0553. www.esthersfollies.com.

Esther's Follies wreaks some havoc on seasonal tribulations with their usual fast-paced brilliance, featuring a preview of the upcoming governor's race, the South Austin Chamber of Commerce, Shannon Sedwick channeling Patsy Cline, an almost X-rated Dr. Suess, and so hilariously on, with much comedy-riddled song

▼ **The renowned brown clown yclept Gabriel Iglesias brings his award-winning style and charm to Cap City Comedy Club this weekend.**



and dance and that spectacular magician Ray Anderson. *Reservations highly recommended. Thu., 8pm; Fri-Sat., 8 & 10pm. \$20 (discounts available Thursdays & Fridays for seniors, students, military.) Additional \$5 for special reserved seats.*

THE HIDEOUT THEATER 617 Congress, 443-3688. www.heroescomedy.com.

AUSTIN IMPROV: EVERYTHING FROM NOTHING The Hideout's the epicenter of all the best improv in Austin, and it's shifting into overdrive for 2006, presenting more shows, more styles, more wicked tasty off-the-cuff japey than you can find anywhere in Texas (or, for that matter, the Greater Southwest and Southeast Regions). Keep your eyes peeled to this section of the listings for what's, as they say, happening at Improv HQ. For instance:

THURSDAY: Wild Card Showcase Audiences are treated to 90 minutes of one troupe's performance of their signature work, whether improv, sketch, or stand-up. *8pm.*

FRIDAY: Improv Threefer Resident and guest improv troupes each perform a 22-minute set, providing audiences a fresh variety of improv teams and approaches each week. This week: **Tight, Wooden Nickle, and Powerball. 8pm.** **Austin Style** Unlike in the Threefer, audiences are treated to two teams performing one specific style or form. This week: **Get Up and Massive. 10pm.** **The Cagematch** Two teams battle for improv supremacy by putting up their best work for the audience in 22 minutes. At the conclusion of the show, the audience decides the winner, who will return the following Friday night to defend their title. Lordy, it's almos' like wrasslin'! *11:30pm.*

SATURDAY: Mainstage Show The Heroes of Comedy, who brought us "Start Trekkin'," "Giants of Improv," and the wildly successful "Lyrix," present original forms and classic shows in one to two month runs. *8pm.* **Maestro** is the most audience-participatory show in the improv line-up. Performers play games and scenes scored by the audience, periodically eliminating low-scoring players until one performer emerges victorious and is crowned the Maestro. *10pm.* **Late Night Hullabaloo & Improv Lab** The audience takes the stage with experienced improvisers, trying out a series of games and gambits, lead by the wily veterans themselves. The Hullabaloo is scheduled the second, third, fourth, and fifth Saturdays of each month, starting roughly 10 minutes after Maestro closes. (And it's free to anyone who has just seen the Maestro.) The first Saturday? An experimental showcase. *11:30pm.*

VELVEETA ROOM 521 E. Sixth, 469-9116.

Howard Beecher Head for the Beech! (No, not that: we mean "head" as a verb, as in "move toward.") The Velveeta's longtime raunchmeister has, like Sears, a softer side; but we don't know if it'll be in evidence this weekend, as Heavy Hitter Howard commands the Cheese Palace stage following openers Jeremy Neal and Chuck Watkins. *Fri-Sat., Jan. 27-28, 9:30 & 11:30pm. \$5.*

Open Mic Night, God Help Us All Think you have what it takes to knock 'em dead, comedy-wise, in three minutes? Some of your fellow citizens think so, and they (and you?) will be up there on the Cheese Palace boards, giving it their best shot. *Thursdays, 10pm. \$5.*

BUT WAIT – THERE'S MORE!

GAG REFLEX One of Austin's favorite sketch comedy troupes hits the road and winds up at Lockhart's Gaslight Theatre for a night of popcult-skewering shenanigans. Politics, sex, religion, other things you're not supposed to discuss in public (according to some silly, outmoded social agenda): All of these are raked over the coals of some pretty twisted funny ha-ha, which is why these guys sold out two New Year's shows a few weeks ago and will be taping this show for some HBO appraisal. *Thu-Sat., Jan. 26-28, 8pm. Gateway Theatre, 9700 Stonelake Blvd., between Capital of Texas Highway and Highway 183 in the Gateway shopping center, 416-5700 x3808, 376-5653. \$10 (discounts available for students, seniors). www.gaslighttheater.com.*

KATHY GRIFFIN This self-proclaimed D-list celebrity comes to Austin to dish on the likes of those Hollywood glitterati you see the paper faces of in the grocery store checkout lines. She's a comedian, that is to say, and she talks about sex in a humorous manner, too. Also, she's a redhead. *Thu., Jan. 26, 8pm. Paramount Theatre, 713 Congress, 472-5470. \$37.50. www.austintheatre.org.*

Dance

DANCE UMBRELLA: BOYZIE CEKWANA'S FLOATING OUTFIT PROJECT South African "wunderkind of dance" Boyzie Cekwana brings his eight-member Floating Outfit Project to Austin to perform two of their award-winning works: JA, NEE and RONA. The former is a meditation on the harsh realities of post-Apartheid South Africa, the latter a celebration of spiritual identity and history. The performances are recommended for mature audiences. *Sat., Jan. 28, 8pm. Waldorf Performing Arts Center, 8702 South View. 450-0456. \$21 (\$18, DU members; \$15, seniors, students; further discounts available with advance purchase). www.danceumbrella.com.*

DELLOS CONTEMPORARY DANCE This Latin American dance company hails from Mazatlan and will wow you with its combination of the physical and the poetic. *Thu., Jan. 26, 8pm. B. Iden Payne Theatre, Winship Drama Bldg., 24th & San Jacinto, 477-6060, 800/687-6010. \$36. www.utpac.org.*

BROADWAY ON ICE There was a time, once, long-long ago, truly a very long time in our mirthful past, when the mere mention of anything "on ice" was code for some sort of derogatory-yet-hilarious poke at whatever grandiose entertainment needed taking down a peg or two. So welcome *Broadway On Ice*: 20 world-class skaters interpreting show-stopping Broadway tunes featuring 40 musical numbers, dazzling choreography, eye-popping sets and costumes in a magical theatrical event on ice. Dorothy Hamill stars with *Phantom of the Opera's* David Gaines. We give the whole show a 6, no matter what the Russian judge says. *Mon., Jan. 30, 8pm. Bass Concert Hall, UT Campus, 23rd & East Campus Drive, 477-6060, 800/687-6010. \$30-57.50. www.utpac.org.*

SPANK DANCE COMPANY: DANCE CAROUSEL As part of the Frontera Long Fringe, we look forward to the third annual Dance Carousel: 10 choreographers provide 40 one-minute dances, and the results boggle the mind, heart, and funnybone. This year's creative crew: Andrea Ariel, Ellen Bartel, Megan Knotz, Dawnerin Larrimore, Chrissy Leach, Tracy Sadler Machalek, Ashley Parker Overton, Mandie Pitre, Randi Turkin, Jennifer Tietz, and Christine Wong. This is a brilliant way to get a look at modern dance, as well as enjoy the imaginations of Austin's able choreographers; reservations strongly suggested. *Sat., Jan. 28, noon; Sun., Jan. 29, 1:45pm. The Blue Theater, 916 Springdale, 479-7529. \$8. www.spankdance.com.*

THE GETALONG GANG: THE CANDY DISH This is a "Super Fun-Size Variety Pak of Dance," part of the FronteraFest Long Fringe. Local choreographers Amberlee Cantrell, Funmilayo Hill, and Zenobia Taylor bring you "a collection of original works so sweet they'll hurt your teeth." Put off that New Year's resolution to go to the dentist, and check out this tasty dish instead. Warning: The music of Foreigner comes in the Pak. *Fri., Jan. 27, 9pm. The Blue Theater, 916 Springdale, 382-0316. \$8.*

BALLET STARS OF NORTH AMERICA Former principal dancers of North America's greatest companies, including members of the Joffrey Ballet,



► **Boyzie Cekwana's Floating Outfit Project comes from South Africa to Austin for a spirited performance.**

American Ballet Theatre, and National Ballet of Canada come together for an innovative and dynamic program of contemporary ballet. *Sun., Jan. 29, 5 & 7:30pm. One World Theatre, 7701 Bee Caves Rd., 32-WORLD. \$40, \$55, \$70. www.oneworldtheatre.org.*

TWO LEFT FEET

DANCE INTERNATIONAL: WORKSHOPS WITH KATRINA SMIRNOFF World Professional Latin Finalist and two-time U.S. Professional Latin Champion Karina Smirnov will be in town to give workshops in Samba and Jive, as well as private lessons. *Sat-Sun., Feb. 4-5. Phone for information. 32-DANCE.*

NOTES & ENCORES

AUDITIONS FOR THE JUMPER IN THE AGE OF TRANSFORMATION Daniel Llanes' whimsical commentary on contemporary culture seeks dancers and actors. Rehearsals start ASAP for the mid-March performance. Phone or e-mail for appt. 389-1512. dllanesrb@earthlink.net.

PUERTO RICAN FOLKLORIC DANCE & CULTURAL CENTER: DANCE COMPANY AUDITIONS Auditions are open to female and male candidates with outstanding dance talent and vibrant stage. Previous knowledge of a latin-folkloric dance style and acting skills a plus. 251-8122. www.prfdance.org.

KATHY DUNN HAMRICK DANCE COMPANY: AUDITIONS Modern dance artists are wanted by this outstanding local group. A PDF of audition details is available on the company's Web site. 891-7703. www.kdhdance.com.

CALYX DANCE COMPANY AUDITIONS New Austin-based dance company seeks strong, expressive male and female dancers with a background in modern/contemporary forms. Interest in collaborative choreographic process is also a plus. Must be available for performances Aug. 25 and 26, and for rehearsals Mondays from 8-10pm. Dancers will be compensated for performance. Call for more information. *Mon., Feb. 13, 1-10pm. Austin Yoga School, 1122-C S. Lamar. 916-9547.*

MOZART'S BIRTHDAY WEEKEND

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Two special events to commemorate the 250th Birthday of

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First Baptist Church of Austin
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Friday, JANUARY 27 at 7:00 PM

Birthday Lecture

by renowned pianist and Mozart scholar Paul Badura-Skoda

Sunday, JANUARY 29 at 3:00 PM

All-Mozart Concert

Eine Kleine Nachtmusik

Piano Concerto No. 9 in

E-flat, K. 271

Concerto for Two Pianos

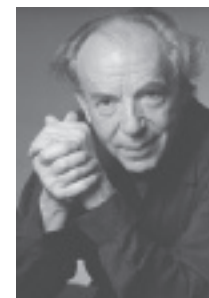
in E-flat, K. 365

PAUL BADURA-SKODA, piano

MARY ROBBINS, piano

with the A. Mozart Fest Chamber Orchestra

Tickets: Available at the door, or visit www.amozartfest.org or call 1-866-468-7621



Three Snaps Up

Motive 807, through Jan. 30

Motive 807 has been selling sneakers, displaying unique toys, and hosting art shows for a year now. It's DIY, which makes for interesting groups of relatively unknown artists. Most of it is really fresh, funny, and with a sizzling graphic sensibility, like "Three Snaps Up," the current eight-artist show up in the store.

Store owner Fahad Mayahi says he's happy to host local exhibitions. How does he pick artists? He shows the ones who buy shoes from him. It's a reciprocal thing. Kim Swift organized this show as a farewell to Austin, she's moving to the Big Apple and wanted to go out with a show. Her work is easily recognizable in its consistency; what varies from piece to piece is the level of emotion.

Depraved isn't the right word; her attitudes are straight from the heart.

She often takes a cute animal-like character and puts sad, dark elements around it. The way the character is built, it's impossible for it not to be attractive like Deery Lou. This sets up a tension in her work that elevates it beyond the basic cartoon. With phrases like "You killed the part of me who cared," some of her text is embattled-relationship-themed. Other works use text as the background architecture,

like the vampire pink-bunny piece that says, "You so far have failed, and you suck real world." Her painting technique is versatile. Some works are pretty tightly shaded and outlined. In a couple of the works, she lets herself develop a more abstract and complicated color scheme in the ground and adds a cute character as the final touch. She has an understanding of and facility with painting.

Matt Rodriguez is showing some of his funny photographs. Documenting street-art moments has become significant to the artist recently. He'll wait for an interaction that is highly pedantic or a daily functional task and shoot a scene. Poster art is the most impractical process, but whimsy and happenstance can be nice. Like going to a shoe store for an art show. Jason Graham's photo series is good, too. I even browsed the magazines like *Artip* (L.A.), *AKA* (12ozProphet NYC), and *Sneaker Freaker* (Australia). I enjoyed this quirky show and all the cool chews.

– Rachel Koper



Put Your Bing Blang in Me (I) by Kim Swift and photo by Matt Rodriguez

Classical Music

UT SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Among the highlights of UT's School of Music's great classical program this week: **Starling Distinguished Violinist Series featuring Robert McDuffie** Hailed as one of the greatest violinist of our time, McDuffie comes to town to perform works by Beethoven, Pärt, Schumann and Bartók. *Thu., Jan. 26, 8pm. Bates Recital Hall. \$17 (\$15, UT faculty, staff; \$10, UT students) at the door.* **Miró Quartet** UT's chamber quartet in residence performs an all-Mozart concert, on the composer's birthday, no less. On the bill: a flute quartet, a horn quintet, a piano quartet and a Kegelstatt trio, which means plenty of guest performers. And no, "Kegelstatt" is not German for "birthday cake." *Fri., Jan. 27, 8pm. Bates Recital Hall. \$17 (\$15, UT faculty, staff; \$10 UT students).* **Jessen Series featuring Adam Holzman** Classical guitarist Holzman performs works by Melii, Dyens, Castelnuovo-Tedesco, Beaser, Assad, and more. Award-winning Holzman is a professor of the instrument at UT, and performs with a deftness that makes critics purr. *Sat., Jan. 28, 8pm. Jessen Auditorium. \$17 (\$15, UT faculty, staff; \$10 UT students).* www.music.utexas.edu.

NOTES & ENCORES

PUERTO RICAN FOLKLORIC DANCE & CULTURAL CENTER: PROFESSIONAL MUSIC ENSEMBLE AUDITIONS These auditions are open to advanced and professional-level musicians only. In addition to singers and percussionists, PRFD is seeking acoustic guitarists and other acoustic instrumentalists, including strings, brass, woodwinds. Musicians should be proficient with written music and playing by ear. 251-8122. www.prfdance.org.

OPENING

TEXAS EARLY MUSIC PROJECT: THE PLAY OF DANIEL TEMP presents this fully staged 12th-century mystery play, featuring a Medieval orchestra (not *literally*!) and a host of local vocal talent. This is the final performance, according to TEMP and it's been a hit since its first run a few years ago. Note the special Saturday matinee, a condensed, narrated, family-friendly version at a family-friendly price. (Heck, every performance is priced to be family friendly, what

are you waiting for?) *Fri.-Sat., Jan. 27-28, 8pm; Sat. Jan. 28, 2pm; Sun., Jan. 29, 3pm. University Presbyterian Church, 2203 San Antonio St., 371-0099. \$15 (\$12, seniors, students; Saturday's family matinee, \$15 per family, \$10 per individual).* www.early-music.org.

A. MOZART FEST: MOZART 250TH CELEBRATION WEEKEND FEATURING PAUL BADURA-SKODA A. Mozart Fest presents two world-class events to kick off what will be a year chock full of Mozart. Gala receptions for artists and audience follow both events, which take place at the First Baptist Church of Austin, 901 Trinity. **Mozart 250th Celebration Lecture** features Viennese maestro Badura-Skoda, sharing stories and insights about Mozart's music, which Badura-Skoda has performed worldwide and to greatest acclaim for 50 years. *Fri., Jan. 27, 7pm. \$20. Mozart 250th Celebration Concert* Maestro Badura-Skoda conducts from the keyboard and performs in AMF's long-standing annual Mozart Birthday Concert, featuring Mary Robbins on piano and the AMF Chamber Orchestra. On the bill: *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik, K.525, the birthday boy's Piano Concerto, K.271, and his Concerto for Two Pianos and Orchestra, K.365. Sun., Jan. 29, 3pm. \$25 (\$35, preferred seating; \$15, students & children).* 866/468-7621. www.amozartfest.org.

FESTIVE BAROQUE MUSIC FOR TRUMPET, SOPRANO, AND ORGAN Baroque trumpeter Nathaniel Mayfield, soprano Kathlene Ritch Brown, and organist Keith Womer perform festive Baroque music in the beautiful acoustics of St. Austin's. The program includes works by Handel, Purcell, Vivaldi, Corelli, and Bach. *Fri., Jan. 27, 8pm. St. Austin's Catholic Church, 2026 Guadalupe. 477-9471. \$15 (\$7, seniors, students).*

ROUND ROCK COMMUNITY CHOIR: CASUAL CLASSICS The choir's annual concert features songs from today and centuries past, including a rich mixture of French and Polynesian pieces, bamboo poles, and soul-touching solos. Among the more familiar names of composers: Handel, Haydn, and John Rutter. *Sat., Jan. 28, 7:30pm. First United Methodist Church, Hwy. 79 & North Mays. 246-7116. www.rcconline.org.*

DELL'ARTE EXQUISITE EVENTS: LISTENING CONCERT AND RECEPTION DEE's P Kellach Waddle has been nominated for The 2006 Pulitzer Prize in Music for his work *All The Different Dark Mornings: Concerto/Symphony in Five Tableaux for Trumpet, Trombone and Orchestra*, and to celebrate his arts group is hosting an event in his honor, where the composer will lecture briefly on the highlights of the work and play the recording of its world premiere. The event also features a 15-minute live performance of Waddle's music, featuring the composer himself. *Tue., Jan. 31. A private home. 732-2438.*

Visual Arts

EVENTS

AARON REYNOLDS AT THE SPACE The much-beloved Griffin School art teacher presents his assemblages of found objects, materials, and textures at the funky artspace on Airport. *Reception: Thu., Jan. 26, 8-10pm. Exhibition: Through Feb. 28. 4803 Airport Blvd., 740-7352.*

OPENING

GALLERY 3: LEAF UT MFA student Katalin Hausel presents her newest large-scale installation, built out of natural and recycled materials that incorporate politically charged textual references. *Reception: Thu., Jan. 26, 5-7pm. Exhibition: Jan. 26-Feb. 18. 2246 Guadalupe, 476-7211. www.gallery3atthecoop.com.*

D BERMAN GALLERY presents new phantasmagoria by Malcolm Bucknall, in the gorgeous "Familiars, Fiends, Funnies. Tread Thee Light Fantastic." *Reception: Thu., Jan. 26, 6-8pm. Exhibition: Through March 4. 1701 Guadalupe, 477-8877. www.dbermangallery.com.*

NORTH HILLS GALLERY will host "Discovery" by 10 Off the Edge, a new group of contemporary watercolor artists. *Exhibition: Feb. 1-28. Reception: Sun., Feb. 12, 12:15-1:30pm. 7050 Village Center Dr., 345-1743.*

CLOSING

★ SLUGFEST GALLERY presents recent work by Slugfest members, including Alison Aydelotte, Margie Crisp, Tom Druecker, Margaret Simpson, Jill Thrasher, and Eric Zimmerman. *Through Jan. 31. 1906 Miriam, 477-7204.*

ART PALACE presents "The Greatest Secrets," a video installation by Austin-based Australian artist Ebony Porter. *Through Jan. 28. 2109 Cesar Chavez, 496-0687. www.artpalacegallery.com.*

IRON GATE STUDIOS present "On Others," an exhibition of sculpture and multimedia works by Greg Pond, Jack Dingo Ryan, Melody Owen, Patrick DeGuira, and Steven Thompson – five artists from five states, exploring the outer reaches of their genres. *Through Jan. 28. 2205 E. Fifth, 495-9994. www.irongatestudios.org.*

★ ART ON 5TH: JANIS JOPLIN features the visual artwork of that former pearl in Austin's musical oyster, along with their usual array of bright graphics from diverse artists. *Through Jan. 31. 1501 W. Fifth, 481-1111. www.arton5th.com.*

ONGOING

EYE CONTACT ART showcases the work of Joshua Garcia and sometimes (in rotation) others. 12400 Amherst #102. 825-8577. www.eyecontactart.com.

ARTAMICI FINE ART GALLERY is featuring work by artists from Argentina, Mexico, Chile, and Peru; paintings by Augustina Rodriguez, Oscar Riquelme, and Pablo Taboada; drawings by Gilberto Ramirez; and metal sculpture by Augusto Brocca. 78 San Marcos, 457-0171.

ARTHOUSE: THE GOSPEL OF LEAD This exhibition, curated by Regine Basha, presents Dario Robleto and Jeremy Blake's investigations into the psychology and imagery of firearms as shaped by American society and vice versa (and even obliquely, as in the Winchester Mystery House referenced in the site's interior reconstruction). Bang. Bang. bang: Fall over dead. *Through March 12. 700 Congress, 453-5312. www.arthousetexas.org.*

AUSTIN ART GLASS This glassblowing studio and gallery offers functional and decorative glass art, as well as glassblowing classes and free demonstrations. 1608 S. Congress, 916-4527. www.austinartglass.com.

BLUE MOON GLASSWORKS Unique handmade glass art and jewelry made by the staff and friends of the studio. 5241 N. Lamar, 380-0770. www.austinbluemoon.com.

LET'S GET SMALL GALLERY located in the Blue Skies Frame Company presents "Faces," Harold Liebowitz's photographs from Egypt, Turkey, and Mexico. *Through Feb. 25. 4408 Medical Pkwy., 302-4779.*

BLUE SKIES FRAME COMPANY "Landscapes of Death Valley" showcases the photography of Gordon MacGregor in the Let's Get Small Gallery. 4408 Medical Pkwy., 302-4779.

CARRIAGE HOUSE GALLERY presents "Jean Caffeine: South by Southeast Asia," prints inspired by a year overseas. *Through Feb. 4. 509 W. Eighth St., 658-0567. www.hardpressedpublicity.com.*

CORONADO STUDIOS The Serie Project, a non-profit Latino arts organization hosted by Coronado Studios, produces, promotes, and exhibits serigraph prints created by diverse artists. 6601 Felix Ave., 385-3591. www.serieproject.org.

CULTURAS DE ARTE is a new gallery featuring Mexican folk art (statues, paintings, home decor, masks, and more) as well as unique works by proprietor Julian Orozco. 3311 N. I-35 Ste. C, 473-2302. www.artcultures.com.

DIAZ GALLERY presents fresh work by Ebbsen Davis, Rick Van Dyke, Aaron Speyer, Nicole Filz, Stephanie Freedman, Blake Yantis, and Christopher Fitzgerald. *Through Jan. 31. 3507 S. First, 444-0013.*

DIBONA STUDIO Here's a studio/gallery devoted exclusively to the work of Joyce DiBona, including

her newest oil paintings and a recently completed sculptural tattoo series. 404 W. Milton, 851-2646.

F8 FINE ART GALLERY presents “New Year: New Faces,” featuring works by Richard Griffin, David Harouni, Ethan Diehl, and Kyla Shakelford, all featuring fresh takes on the human figure. *Through Feb. 11. 1137 W. Sixth, 480-0242. www.f8fineart.com.*

FIRE ISLAND HOT GLASS STUDIO Specializes in functional and decorative works in glass for home and garden. Glassblowing demos: Saturdays, 9am-noon. 3401 E. Fourth, 389-1100. www.fireislandglass.com.

FRANCOIS PHOTOGRAPHY GALLERY presents the photographic work of Kim Francois. 309-B Bowie, 320-0072.

GALLERY SOCO carries original art in various media, currently featuring works by Sylvia Angeli, Cheryl Tamborello, Jeff Scott, Lisa Fittipaldi, and others. 1714-A S. Congress, 442-5144.

INAUGURAL FIRST NIGHT ART ON DISPLAY AT THE FAULK CENTRAL LIBRARY The Open Book Project, commissioned by First Night Austin, features three larger-than-life open books covered by imagery and text by Marrilee Ratcliffe, Project Coordinator for the Austin Public Library. *Through March 31. 800 Guadalupe, 499-7300.*

KATHY WOMACK GALLERY features works by native Texan Kathy Womack. 411 Brazos #100. www.kwomack.com.

LORA REYNOLDS GALLERY announces their first solo exhibition of works by Los Angeles-based artist Francesca Gabbiani. “Wonderland” will showcase Gabbiani’s large-scale, extraordinarily intricate cut-paper collages. *Through Feb. 25. 300 West Avenue #1318, 215-4965. www.lorareynolds.com.*

MEXIC ARTE MUSEUM: RED features 26 abstract sculptures and paintings by Alberto Castro Leñero, along with a retrospective of lithographs by José Clemente Orozco. *Through March 19. 419 Congress, 480-9373.*

MITCHIE’S FINE BLACK ART has an eclectic selection of African and African-American artwork and craft items on display. 6406 N. I-35 #2800, 323-6901. www.mitchie.com.

NORTH HILLS GALLERY presents works by David Kroft, head of the art department at Concordia University. *Through Jan. 30. 7050 Village Center Dr., 345-1743.*

OSWALD GALLERY presents “Texas Women Photographers Showcase,” a grouping of Texas photographers: Judith Birdsong, Melissa Ciano, Betsy Haas, Glynda Hatfield, Sybil Miller, Debra Rueb, Amanda Stahl, and Shelley Wood. *Through Feb. 28. 714 Congress #200, 494-9440.*

PHOTOGECKO STUDIOS presents an array of film/digital artist John Campbell’s black-and-white photographs. Monthly First Thursday events debut new images along with live music. 1413 S. First, 797-9375. www.photogecko.com.

PRO-JEX GALLERY Now in its new post-fire location, this friendly and locally owned business offers original fine art photography and picture framing. 1710 S. Lamar Ste. C, 472-7707.

RT GALLERY will be exhibiting the photography of Rama Tiru and oil paintings by Jan Middleton Roset. Imagination and energetic frenzy ensue. 3701 Guadalupe, 258-6486.

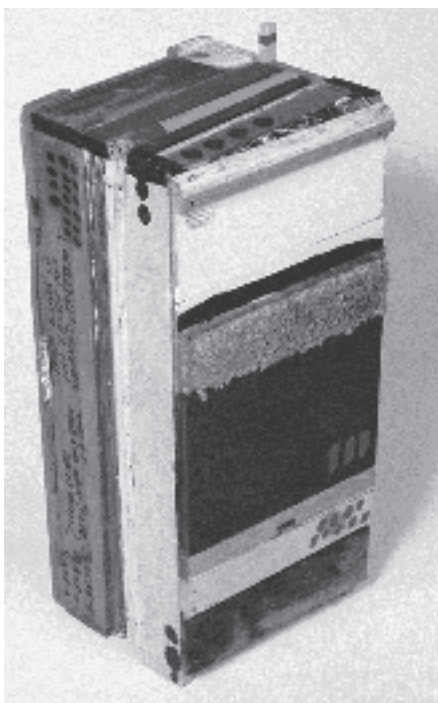
URBAN ROOTS GALLERY presents “Confession” by E. Moises Diaz, exploring everyday emotions through abstracted acrylics on paper. 1202-A W. Sixth.

WOMEN & THEIR WORK presents “Aqueous,” a series of silverpoint drawings and watercolor paintings by Liz Ward. *Through Feb. 11. 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064. www.womenandtheirwork.org.*

CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

THE PUMP PROJECT Shady Tree Studios is now accepting submissions for participation in shows being planned for the first half of 2006. Submissions should include examples of work (12-20 images) in digital (CD) or slide format; Artist’s résumé including name, address, phone number, e-mail; description and titles/medium/dimensions of the work; artist’s statement; etc. Include SASE for return of work, and mail submissions to: *Pump Project Art submission, Shady Tree Studios, 702 Shady Lane #A, Austin, 78702. Deadline: Feb. 15.*

MEXIC-ARTE MUSEUM is seeking enthusiastic artists to plan and teach interactive projects with the youth of Austin for future after-school art programs. Must be bilingual and have a college degree, preferably in art. Send résumés to Lacey Richter, Education Outreach Coordinator. 419 Congress, 480-9373.



▲ The found-object assemblages of Aaron Reynolds invade the Space this Thursday.

TEXAS MORATORIUM NETWORK announces a Death Penalty Art Competition and Exhibition to encourage and enhance civic engagement about the death penalty. Exhibition to be held at Gallery Lombardi in May. Prospectus available online. Deadline: *March 20. www.deathpenaltyartshow.org.*

WOMEN & THEIR WORK is soliciting proposals for individual and curated group exhibitions for its Gallery Artist Series to begin in January 2007. Check their Web site for details and applications. Deadline: *Postmarked by March 10. 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064. www.womenandtheirwork.org/callfor.htm.*

Litera

READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

ROBERT JENSEN presents his nonfiction take on racism in America, *Heart of Whiteness*. Bottom line: White people are the problem. Amen. Jensen is a professor of media law, ethics, and politics at UT Austin. *Wed., Feb. 1, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.*

THE BEOWULF POETS Tom Cable, UT Austin professor of English, provides a historical introduction to Old and Middle English poetry with original as well as Modern English readings from *Beowulf*, *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, Chaucer’s *Canterbury Tales*, and other selections. Live music accompanies Dr. Cable’s journey into the history of the English language through poetry. *Wed., Feb. 1, noon. Harry Ransom Center, 300 W. 21st, 471-8944. Free. www.hrc.utexas.edu/exhibitions/poetry/.*

GALT NIEDERHOFFER presents her light romance *Taxonomy of Barnacles*. Niederhoffer started her own film production company, Plum Pictures, in her early 20s, and has produced three award-winning Sundance movies. *Tue., Jan. 31, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.*

ANDY GREENWALD presents his hip new novel *Miss Misery*. Greenwald is a senior contributing writer at *Spin* whose work has also appeared in *Blender*, *The Village Voice*, *Magnet*, and elsewhere. *Mon., Jan. 30, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.*

D’LO AND HER WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS offer an evening of performance with a focus on gender presentation and sexual orientation. *Sun., Jan. 29, 5pm. ALLGO’s Tillery Street Theater, 701 Tillery, 472-2001. Pay what you can. www.allgo.org.*

WRITERS’ LEAGUE OF TEXAS 25TH BIRTHDAY PARTY Celebrate with food, drink, and live music from the Chevelles. Tix are available in advance, by calling the league office, or at the door on the day of the event. They’ll save a piece of cake for you. Sponsored by *The Austin Chronicle*, Stubb’s Bar-B-Q, and Independence Brewing

Company. *Sun., Jan. 29, 4pm. Stubb’s Bar-B-Q, 801 Red River, 499-8914. \$10 (\$5 for kids ages 11 and younger). www.writersleague.org.*

WRITING ON THE AIR replays a 2005 interview with Grady Roper of Austin’s *Proper Gander* magazine. *Sat., Jan. 28, 4pm. KOOP Austin 91.7FM.*

★ **LITERA’S OWN RIC WILLIAMS** reads new works and old along with his special guest Michael Gilmore. Enjoy wine, snacks, and signed copies of Ric’s book, *The Secret Book of God*, provided by Dalton Publishing. *Sat., Jan. 28, 7pm. 12th Street Books, 827 W. 12th, 499-8828.*

ALLGO’S CULTURAL ARTS PROGRAM presents “Ramblations: A One D’Lo Show” featuring L.A.-based performance artist D’Lo. Spirituality, “gayness,” politics, and possibly quantum physics channeled through gay Hindu hip-hop. *Sat., Jan. 28, 7pm. ALLGO’s Tillery Street Theater, 701 Tillery, 472-2001. Pay what you can. www.allgo.org.*

SIERRA CLUB RECEPTION and fundraiser features actor Lee Stetson, famous for his plays about the life of John Muir. *Sat., Jan. 28, 1pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.*

NICK LAIRD presents his novel *Utterly Monkey*. This 30-year-old novelist and poet won the 2005 Rooney Prize for Irish Literature. *Fri., Jan. 27, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.*

JEFFREY ALFORD celebrates the release of his *Mangoes and Curry Leaves: Culinary Journeys in the Great Subcontinent*. Co-written with Naomi Duguid, this is the follow-up to their award winning *Flatbreads and Flavors: A Baker’s Atlas*. *Thu., Jan. 26, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.*

WRITING/BOOK GROUPS

BOOKWOMAN BOOKGROUP celebrates the anniversary of Roe v. Wade with *The Story of Jane: the Legendary Underground Feminist Abortion Service* by Laura Kaplan. *Thu., Jan. 26, 7pm. BookWoman, 918 W. 12th, 472-2785.*

MARY-AGNES TAYLOR, a professor emerita of English from TSU-San Marcos, is the featured reader for the January meeting of the Austin Poetry Society. The topic for her program explores the Chapbook as Memoir. *Sat., Jan. 28, 2pm. Howson Library, 2500 Exposition, 472-3584.*

CALL FOR ENTRIES

THE BALCONES POETRY PRIZE is accepting submissions. The \$1,000 award recognizes an outstanding book of poetry published between Jan. 1 and Dec. 31, 2005. Books must be of 42 pages or more. Send three copies; books must bear a publication date. Reading fee: \$20. Checks payable to Austin Community College. Address: *John Herndon, Associate Director, Balcones Center for Creative Writing, Austin Community College, 1212 Rio Grande, Austin, 78701. Deadline: Jan. 31.*

YOUTH POETRY ANTHOLOGY The Austin International Poetry Festival is accepting submissions for its yearly juried Youth Poetry Anthology. Students who have poems chosen for the anthology receive one copy of the anthology and are invited to read their poem at the Youth Showcase on the last day of the festival. Open to all students K-12. See their Web site for details. Deadline: *Feb. 1. www.aipf.org.*

THE TEXAS SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED celebrates its sesquicentennial with a kickoff ceremony featuring Mayor Will Wynn and several other VIPs. Cake provided by Austin’s premier pastry chef, Mark Chapman. The *Austin Chronicle*’s Ric Williams announces the winners of two poetry contests: one held for students at the school and one for former students older than 18 years. Ryan A. Garcia of Corpus Christi won the contest for the older-than-18 group; Maricela Alvarado from Fresno won the school’s contest. The next contest is currently open; check the Web site for details. www.tsbvi.edu/school/sesq.

OPEN MICS

NEO-SOUL LOUNGE is hosted by B. Fran. *Wednesdays, 8:30pm. Antonio’s Tex Mex, 7522 N. I-35. www.southflavas.com.*

AUSTIN JAVA COMPANY features open-mic poetry and spoken word with your hosts Rhiannon and Christopher Robin. *Thursdays, 6-10pm. Austin Java Cafe & Bar, 1206 Parkway, 476-1829. www.austinjava.com.*

CAFFEINATED POETRY (with added live music) is a new open mic venue open to musicians and poets. Hosted by Thom the World Poet. Every

Wednesday, except the first Wednesday when they all go to Vinny’s, 7-9pm. Cafe Caffeine, 909 W. Mary, 447-9473.

THE AUSTIN POETRY SLAM Mike Henry captains the crew that has all the best of stand-up, performance art, theatre, rock & roll, and phone sex rolled into one electrifying evening. \$100 in prizes every week; open mic precedes the main event. *Wednesdays, 8pm. Ego’s, 510 S. Congress, 474-7091. www.austinslam.com.*

GENUINE POETRY is hosted by Eric Wheeler and Kathleen Romana. *Mondays, 7-9pm. Genuine Joe Coffeehouse, 2001 W. Anderson, 220-1576. www.genuinejoe.com.*

HIDEOUT MIC is always an Open Universe event with your newest host, Bevin Shaw. *Mondays, 7-10pm. The Hideout Coffeehouse, 617 Congress, 476-0473. \$2 or canned food for Poets’ Pantry. www.thehideout.org.*

CAFE LIBRO, a bimonthly open mic series, features Joaquin Abrego aka Joaquin Muerte. His poetry is mainly influenced by radical activism and hip-hop. Joaquin is part of a youth movement spreading social justice and promoting the chicanada through T-shirt designs and appearances in poetry slams at local nodes of electric transformation. Presented by Red Salmon Arts. *Fri., Jan. 27, 7pm. Resistencia Bookstore, 1801-A S. First, 416-8885.*

RUTA MAYA is hosted by Aaron Sanders and Mark Maslow. Bring canned food for the Poets’ Pantry. *Tuesdays, 6-8pm. Round robin: 6-7pm. Sign-up list: 7-8pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. www.freespeechart.com.*

POETRY KARAOKE The Poetry Karaoke Orchestra backs your poetry on the porch, with hosts Ivanho and Chris the Future. Bring canned foods for the Poets’ Pantry. *Tuesdays, 8-10pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. www.rutamaya.net.*

ROUND ROBIN SUNDAY. Ventana has a new PA and a desire for more poets! (And musicians.) Rhett Ponder hosts this new weekly open mic. Fine foods and drinks available. *Every Sunday. 6-9pm. Ventana del Soul, 1834 E. Oltorf, 707-7447. VentanaDelSoul.org.*

MISCELLANEOUS

MORE POETRY! *Bush a dread-faced mask wanting to scour the earth of devils & decay & collateral damage is simply the cost of doing god’s business. but that is a house cleaner’s attitude, so fastidious, so maniacal a wrym ourboros eating itself: scrub to the bone, to the marrow, to dust. alas, he is not an architect. there will always be cockroaches, so as he flushes them out here & there in a Kafkaesque version of the Keystone Cops choreographed with oceans of blood & rendered flesh, we watch seemingly paralyzed as the house inexorably falls down around us. Namaste. Vaya con dios.*

POEM OF THE ISSUE

Mockery in naked forms
Graces twisted flannel sheets,
Blue as wild waters,
And she wonders why she
Has never awakened in
The same arms that took her,
As she bartered a little flesh
For a few more silent moments.

— Gabrielle S. Faust, “Trade,” from her collection *Before Icarus, After Achilles*

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The Matador

D: Richard Shepard; with Pierce Brosnan, Greg Kinnear, Hope Davis, Philip Baker Hall. (R, 96 min.)

Lives in descent always make for fascinating viewing, and this oddball comic pairing of the ageless Kinnear and aging former James Bond Brosnan is an inspired travelogue through the land of the shaky, the hesitant, and the almost-but-perhaps-not-entirely doomed. For all its faux-European locations (jarring, massive intertitles announce locales like “Budapest” and “Vienna” every so often), the film was shot chiefly in Mexico City and resonates with a peculiarly American angst; it’s like *Death of a Salesman* if Willy Loman had been a contract killer, minus Miller’s airtight and joyless denouement. The killer here is Julian Noble (Brosnan), who is anything but. With his penchant for underage girls and a constant intake of margaritas, he’s James Bond in a permanent skid, striding through hotel lobbies in Speedos and boots in an alcoholic blur and inwardly panicking as his resolve and professional skills as a “facilitator of fatalities” crumble into so many empty and worthless shell casings. By happenstance, Noble, on assignment in Mexico City, falls in with traveling salesman Danny Wright (Kinnear) in a glossily soulless hotel bar. After some drunken banter – which goes hideously and hilariously wrong on Noble’s part – Wright confides that his life is something of a shambles: His wife Bean (Davis) and he lost their only son four years previous, and the marriage is drifting toward the inevitable emotional breakers. Things are tough all over, it seems, but when the frighteningly lonely Noble invites his new pal to a bullfight, and there reveals his occupation in a finely acted exploration of assassination theory, the film takes off as an improbable buddy picture that follows the apparently downward trajectories of its two leads. Much of the pleasure *The Matador* has to offer comes from watching Brosnan disassemble his longtime alter-ego. The character of Noble couldn’t be less like Bond, but distant, familial echoes are there all the same, in



the drinking and ever-randy insouciance. What’s ultimately even more satisfying is writer-director Shepard’s finely calibrated script, which aims somewhere between comedy and pathos – there’s one particular shot involving the bereft hitman and an overlarge sombrero that’s far more poignant than it has any right to be – and scores an emotional bulls-eye from what feels like a million yards out. Much of this has to do with the small ensemble cast. It’s often difficult to remember that beneath Kinnear’s boyish looks and eager-to-please, almost canine mien resides a highly skilled actor capable of some remarkable inner twists. Davis, who is given less to do here than anyone and still nearly ends up stealing the show, is likewise affecting. In the end, it becomes a curious, postmodern sort of buddy comedy, but *The Matador* is anything but predictable, and therein lies its sublime and fascinating charm.

– Marc Savlov

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, AMC Barton Creek Square, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

New Reviews

ANNAPOLIS

D: Justin Lin; with James Franco, Tyrese Gibson, Jordana Brewster, Wilmer Calderon, Donnie Wahlberg, Vicellous Reon Shannon. (PG-13, 103 min.)

Justin Lin’s promising 2002 film *Better Luck Tomorrow* – about a group of over-achieving Asian-American schoolkids who get wrapped up in a murder – never fully engaged me while managing to woo other critics (and more than a few Sundancers) into a state of rapturous bliss. Compared to that challenging film, *Annapolis* is a thick but hardly meaty slice of old-school Hollywood hokum, the sort of film that in decades past might have attracted actors like Montgomery Clift or even John Wayne. As it stands, it’s a flimsy, all-too-predictable yawner that makes life at the legendary Naval Academy seem like a snore. If our future admirals are anything like Franco’s dopey-eyed plebe, we might as well scuttle the fleet right now. (Lin has recently been tagged to helm the U.S. remake of the superlative South Korean mind-warper *Oldboy*, which may or may not be a good idea.) Franco, looking for all the world like the bastard offspring of James Dean and Matt Dillon, is Jake Huard, a young riveter at the Navy’s shipyard who has dreamed of entering Annapolis since the death of his mother years ago. When he

lucks in, Jake finds himself drilled to death by Midshipman Cole (Gibson), a former Marine and this film’s none-too-subtle version of *An Officer and a Gentleman*’s Louis Gossett Jr. Ricocheting between Jake’s panicky drive not to wash out and an emerging romantic subplot with the luminous Jordana Brewster, *Annapolis* elicited groans and the occasional burst of laughter from the audience, thanks to a ham-fisted script from former *Family Guy* writer David Collard that piles on the clichés one after the other until the whole affair begins to buckle under the weight of its own ironclad silliness. It’s not enough to include the requisite overlong training montage – Lin and Collard also feel the need to toss in a rogues gallery of boot-camp stereotypes, including the Loudmouth (Calderon), the Crusty Old Salt (Wahlberg), and the Fat Guy Who’s Doomed From the Start (Shannon). Much of this could be forgiven were it not for the singular fact that, as the film’s centerpoint, Franco’s plebe has little resembling a serious backstory or even a sense of motivation beyond the obvious. Why is he here to begin with? “To serve my country,” he tells Midshipman Cole. But the line, like the film, has the hollow ring of bullshit that sinks the film like a torpedo to the engine room. Best never to have left dry dock with this one.

– Marc Savlov

★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, CM Barton Creek, Highland, Gateway, Metropolitan, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Westgate

BIG MOMMA’S HOUSE 2

D: John Whitesell; with Martin Lawrence, Elton LeBlanc, Emily Procter, Nia Long, Michelle Parylak, Sarah Brown. (PG-13, 98 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. Martin Lawrence reprises his role as an FBI agent who goes deep undercover as the titular fat granny. This time, the agent’s tasked to avert a national security disaster; if the press kit can be trusted, “hilarious situations ensue.”

– Kimberley Jones

AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

BUBBLE

D: Steven Soderbergh; with Debbie Doebereiner, Dustin James Ashley, Misty Dawn Wilkins, Decker Moody, K. Smith. (R, 73 min.)

Steven Soderbergh’s *Bubble* is likely to be remembered as the adequate but unspectacular first volley in Mark Cuban and Todd Wagner’s modern experiment in vertical film integration. Through their new media company 2929 Entertainment, the Broadcast.com billionaires are now owners of the distribution company Magnolia Pictures, the national arthouse theatre chain Landmark Theatres (which operates the Dobie Theatre in Austin), and the HDNet cable TV channels and production company. Through the integrated cooperation of these companies, *Bubble* is being

Openings

Annapolis (PG-13)

Big Momma’s House 2 (PG-13)

Bubble (R)

The Matador (R)

Nanny McPhee (PG)

Transamerica (R)

Ratings

★★★★★ As perfect as a movie can be

★★★★ Slightly flawed, but excellent nonetheless

★★★ Has its good points, and its bad points

★★ Mediocre, but with one or two bright spots

★ Poor, without any saving graces

🍌 La bomba

simultaneously released on cable and in theatres on Jan. 27, and on DVD the following Tuesday, Jan. 31. It’s a move that’s being closely watched throughout the industry, whose executives are currently rethinking their traditional production and exhibition strategies in these days of declining theatre attendance and the explosion of media formats. The *Bubble* release is additionally interesting in light of its being the first major instance of vertical integration in the movie industry since Reaganomics and subsequent economic policies eroded the 1948 ruling against vertical integration in the U.S. movie industry. That antitrust ruling made it illegal for one company to exercise a potentially monopolistic stranglehold by producing, releasing, and exhibiting a movie under the same corporate auspices. Digital technological advances have further streamlined 2929’s ability to manage all aspects of the film pipeline, and to kick off their new experiment the company hired the iconoclastic Soderbergh to make its first six digital features. *Bubble* is the first film to be made and released through this arrangement. The film is a modest story about three workers in a doll factory in a small town in Ohio, near the West Virginia border. Nonprofessional actors star in the movie, which was also shot and edited by Soderbergh, using pseudonyms. The script, by Coleman Hough (who also penned Soderbergh’s last experimental picture, *Full Frontal*), spends the first 50 or so minutes observing the lives of the workers before segueing into a wan murder whodunit. Dowdy Martha (Doebereiner) lives with her shut-in father and considers young Kyle (Ashley), who lives with his mother in a trailer, to be her best friend, even though her sentiments are never reciprocated.

spike and mike

2006 sick and twisted festival of animation

alamo drafthouse downtown

january 26-february 14

www.drafthouse.com



WARNING:
due to the extreme
nature of this program
all shows are
EXCLUSIVELY
18 AND UP

[because some cartoons are too depraved even for adult swim.]
featuring over 20 brand new cartoons for 2006



Slow And Steady Wins The Race



Magic



Donkey Beag



WetnO'Retum



Ski Ya, Wouldn't Wanna be Ya



Pig & Bunny CANADA

Since 1990, the Alamo Drafthouse Cinema has been host to Spike and Mike's Sick and Twisted show. The most wanton, demented, debauched, perverted, unnatural, lewd and generally irredeemable collection of cartoons known to man. This year features a brand new slate of over 20 films, a visual assault with something to offend everyone. Don't miss your chance to get a sneak peak of the most Southpark, Wallace and Gromit, or Beavis and Butt-head, all of whom got their start with Spike and Mike.

Showtimes

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27 - THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE DOWNTOWN 409-B Colorado, 476-1320. Seating begins one half-hour before showtime. Admission is 18 and up. AFS events are all ages.

Herzog: *Aguirre, the Wrath of God:* Sun, 4:00pm

Weird Wednesday: *Girl on a Chain Gang:* Wed, 12mid

It's All Too Beautiful: 1960s Promotional Videos: Mon, 9:45pm

Lunafest 2006: Sun, 1:00pm

Moke It Funky!: Wed, 7:00pm

AFS: The President's Last Bang: Tue, 7:00pm

Rad: Mon, 7:00pm

Spike & Mike's Sick & Twisted Festival of Animation 2006: Fri-Sat, 7:30, 9:45, 12mid; Sun, 7:30, 9:45; Thu, 7:30, 9:45, 12mid

Wal-Mart: The High Cost of Low Price: Wed, 9:45pm

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE LAKE CREEK 13729 Research, 219-8135.

***Annapolis:** 1:15, 4:00, 7:30, 10:00

Brokeback Mountain: 12:15, 3:25, 7:10, 10:20

***The Matador:** 11:20am, 1:40, 4:05, 7:30, 10:00pm

Memoirs of a Geisha: Fri-Sun, 11:55am, 3:20, 7:05, 10:30pm; Mon, 11:55am, 3:20, 10:30pm; Tue-Thu, 11:55am, 3:20, 7:05, 10:30pm

Munich: 11:25am, 3:00, 7:00, 10:35pm

Rumor Has It ...: 4:10, 10:25

Syriana: 12:40, 7:25

Walk the Line: 12:05, 3:30, 7:15, 10:15

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE SOUTH 1120 S. Lamar, 476-1320.

Brokeback Mountain: Fri-Sun, 12:25, 3:30, 7:05, 10:10; Mon-Thu, 3:30, 7:05, 10:10

***The Matador:** Fri-Sun, 12:05, 2:25, 4:45, 7:30, 9:55; Mon-Thu, 4:45, 7:30, 9:55

***Match Point:** Fri-Sun, 1:00, 3:55, 7:00, 9:50; Mon-Thu, 3:55, 7:00, 9:50

Munich: Fri-Sun, 11:30am, 3:00, 6:45, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu, 3:00, 6:45, 10:20

Kids Club: *Raggedy Ann and Andy:* Sat, 12:00pm

Sarah Silverman: Jesus Is Magic: Fri, 9:35, 11:35; Sat, 11:35pm

Walk the Line: Fri-Sun, 12:40, 3:45, 7:15, 10:15; Mon-Thu, 3:45, 7:15, 10:15

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE VILLAGE 2700 W. Anderson, 476-1320. Tuesday matinee "Baby Day" shows (first show of the day) are intended for parents and children aged infant to 6 years old. AFS events are all ages.

Glory Road: Fri-Sun, 1:05, 3:50, 7:10, 9:45; Mon, 3:50, 7:10, 9:45; Tue, 1:05, 3:50, 7:10, 9:45; Wed-Thu, 3:50, 7:10, 9:45

Hostel: Fri-Sun, 12:20, 10:40; Mon, 10:40pm; Tue, 12:20, 10:40; Wed-Thu, 10:40pm

King Kong: 2:55, 7:00

Live Freaky! Die Freaky!: Fri-Sat, 12mid

The Rocky Horror Picture Show: Sat, 12mid

Trapped in the Closet: The R. Kelly Sing-Along: Wed, 9:45pm

***Underworld: Evolution:** Fri-Sun, 1:10, 4:00, 7:15, 9:50; Mon, 4:00, 7:15, 9:50; Tue, 1:10, 4:00, 7:15, 9:50; Wed-Thu, 4:00, 7:15, 9:50

Videoke: Fri, 12mid

Walk the Line: Fri-Tue, 3:35, 7:05, 10:05; Wed, 3:35, 7:05; Thu, 3:35, 7:05, 10:05

ARBOR CINEMA @ GREAT HILLS 9828 Great Hills Trail (at Jollyville), 321-9742. Discounts daily before 6pm; all day Wednesday.

Austin Jewish Film Festival: The Art of Reel-Ism: Fri

Brokeback Mountain: Fri, 12:45, 4:30, 6:30, 7:20, 9:30, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 11:40am, 12:45, 3:00, 4:30, 6:30, 7:20, 9:30, 10:10pm

Capote: 12:10, 2:50, 5:30, 8:10

Casanova: 11:50am, 2:30, 5:20, 8:00pm

Looking for Comedy in the Muslim World: Fri-Mon, 12:00, 2:40, 4:50, 7:10, 10:15; Tue-Sun, 12:00, 2:40, 4:50

Match Point: 1:00, 4:15, 7:00, 9:50

Memoirs of a Geisha: 12:20, 3:30, 6:45, 9:45

Transamerica: 11:30am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00pm

BARTON CREEK CINEMA (CINEMARK) Highway 360 and Walsh Tartton, 306-1688. Discounts daily before 6pm.

***Annapolis:** Fri, 2:25, 5:00, 7:40, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 11:40am, 2:25, 5:00, 7:40, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu, 2:25, 5:00, 7:40, 10:15

Brokeback Mountain: Fri, 3:35, 6:45, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 12:30, 3:35, 6:45, 9:50; Mon-Thu, 3:35, 6:45, 9:50

Casanova: Fri, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:05; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:05pm; Mon-Thu, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:05

Hoodwinked: Fri, 2:05, 4:40, 7:15; Sat-Sun, 11:25am, 2:05, 4:40, 7:15pm; Mon-Thu, 2:05, 4:40, 7:15

King Kong: Fri, 3:25, 7:50; Sat-Sun, 11:35am, 3:25, 7:50pm; Mon-Thu, 3:25, 7:50

Memoirs of a Geisha: Fri, 2:45, 6:30, 9:45; Sat-Sun, 11:20am, 2:45, 6:30, 9:45pm; Mon-Thu, 2:45, 6:30, 9:45

Munich: Fri, 2:30, 6:05, 9:35; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 2:30, 6:05, 9:35pm; Mon-Thu, 2:30, 6:05, 9:35

***The New World:** Fri, 3:15, 7:00, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 12:00, 3:15, 7:00, 10:00; Mon-Thu, 3:15, 7:00, 10:00

Pride & Prejudice: Fri, 3:45, 7:10, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 12:20, 3:45, 7:10, 10:10; Mon-Thu, 3:45, 7:10, 10:10

The Ringer: 9:30pm

Walk the Line: Fri, 2:55, 6:15, 9:25; Sat-Sun, 11:45am, 2:55, 6:15, 9:25pm; Mon-Thu, 2:55, 6:15, 9:25

BARTON CREEK SQUARE (AMC) Barton Creek Square mall (MoPac and Highway 360), 306-9190. Matinee discounts before 6pm.

Big Momma's House 2: Fri-Sat, 1:00, 1:55, 3:10, 4:15, 5:25, 7:00, 8:00, 9:25, 10:20; Sun, 1:00, 1:55, 3:10, 4:15, 5:25, 7:00, 8:00, 9:25; Mon-Thu, 1:55, 3:00, 4:15, 5:25, 7:00, 8:00, 9:25

Capote: Fri-Sat, 7:35, 10:10; Sun-Thu, 7:15, 9:50

Cheaper by the Dozen 2: 1:45pm

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe: 1:35, 4:35, 7:45

End of the Spear: Fri-Sat, 1:40, 7:10; Sun-Thu, 1:40, 7:35

Fun With Dick and Jane: 4:25pm

Glory Road: 1:30, 4:05, 7:05, 9:45

Last Holiday: 2:15, 4:55, 7:30, 9:55

The Matador: Fri-Sat, 1:25, 3:35, 5:50, 8:10, 10:25; Sun-Thu, 2:20, 5:00, 7:25, 9:40

Match Point: Fri-Sat, 1:50, 4:40, 7:20, 10:05; Sun-Thu, 1:50, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00

Nanny McPhee: Fri-Sat, 1:10, 2:30, 3:25, 4:45, 5:40, 7:15, 7:55, 9:35, 10:15; Sun, 1:10, 2:30, 3:25, 4:45, 5:40, 7:10, 8:00, 9:35; Mon-Thu, 2:05, 3:15, 4:45, 5:40, 7:10, 7:55, 9:35

The Producers: 2:25, 5:35

Syriana: 8:30pm

Syriana & Isolda: 4:10, 9:50

Underworld: Evolution: Fri-Sat, 1:05, 2:00, 3:30, 4:30, 5:55, 7:00, 8:15, 9:30, 10:30; Sun, 1:05, 2:00, 3:30, 4:30, 5:55, 7:00, 8:15, 9:30; Mon-Thu, 2:00, 3:30, 4:30, 5:55, 7:00, 8:15, 9:30

DOBIE THEATRE LANDMARK 2025 Guadalupe (Dobie Mall, second floor), 472-FILM.

AFS@Dobie: *Bubble:* Fri, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30; Mon-Thu, 7:00, 9:30

Capote: Fri-Sun, 4:20, 9:40; Mon-Thu, 9:40pm

AFS@Dobie: *Darwin's Nightmare:* Fri, 4:10, 7:10, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:50; Mon, 7:10, 9:50; Tue, 9:50pm; Wed-Thu, 7:10, 9:50

Good Night, and Good Luck: Fri, 7:20pm; Sat-Sun, 1:20, 7:20; Mon-Thu, 7:20pm

The Squid and the Whale: Fri, 4:30, 7:30, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:00; Mon-Tue, 7:30, 10:00; Thu, 10:00pm

GALAXY HIGHLAND 10 North I-35 & Middle Fiskville, 467-7305.

***Annapolis (in DLP digital):** Fri-Sat, 12:25, 2:40, 4:55, 7:15, 9:50, 11:55; Sun-Thu, 12:25, 2:40, 4:55, 7:15, 9:50

***Big Momma's House 2:** Fri-Sat, 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50, 12:05am; Sun-Thu, 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe (in DLP digital): 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00

Fun With Dick and Jane: 4:10, 7:10

***Glory Road (in DLP digital):** Fri-Sat, 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00, 12:30am; Sun-Thu, 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

Hostel: Fri-Sat, 2:35, 9:45, 11:55; Sun-Thu, 2:35, 9:45

King Kong: Fri-Sat, 12:20, 4:00, 7:40, 11:05; Sun-Thu, 12:20, 4:00, 7:40

Last Holiday: Fri-Sat, 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:50, 12:15am; Sun-Thu, 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:50

***Nanny McPhee:** Fri-Sat, 12:15, 2:25, 4:45, 7:05, 9:25, 11:30; Sun-Thu, 12:15, 2:25, 4:45, 7:05, 9:25

Syriana: 12:05, 4:40, 7:15

Tristan & Isolda: Fri-Sat, 1:40, 9:40, 12:10am; Sun-Thu, 1:40, 9:40

***Underworld: Evolution:** Fri-Sat, 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15, 12:30am; Sun-Thu, 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15

GATEWAY THEATRE 9700 Stonelake Blvd., between Capital of Texas Highway and Highway 183 in the Gateway shopping center, 416-5700 x3808.

Annapolis: 12:05, 2:40, 5:10, 7:45, 10:30

Big Momma's House 2: 12:10, 3:05, 5:30, 8:05, 10:35

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe: 11:50am, 3:35, 6:40, 9:40pm

End of the Spear: 11:35am, 2:10, 4:45, 7:15, 9:55pm

The Family Stone: 7:40, 10:10

Fun With Dick and Jane: 12:30, 2:50, 5:05

Glory Road: 12:45, 3:30, 7:00, 9:45

Hoodwinked: 12:35, 2:55, 5:00, 7:20, 9:30

King Kong: 12:40, 4:55, 9:25

Last Holiday: 12:00, 2:35, 5:20, 8:00, 10:45

The Matador: 12:25, 3:05, 5:25, 7:50, 10:20

Munich: 11:30am, 3:00, 6:30, 10:00pm

Nanny McPhee: 11:40am, 2:15, 4:40, 7:10, 9:35pm

The New World: 11:55am, 3:20, 7:05, 10:05pm

Syriana: 12:20, 3:10, 7:30, 10:15

Underworld: Evolution: Fri, 2:45, 5:15, 7:55, 10:40; Sat, 12:15, 5:15, 7:55, 10:40; Sun, 2:45, 5:15, 7:55; Mon-Thu, 2:45, 5:15, 7:55, 10:40; Tue, 12:15, 5:15, 7:55, 10:40

Underworld: Evolution (open captioned): Fri, 12:15pm; Sat, 2:45pm; Sun, 12:15, 10:40; Mon, 12:15, 7:55; Tue, 2:45, 10:40; Wed, 12:15, 7:55; Thu, 2:45, 10:40

Walk the Line: 11:45am, 3:25, 6:50, 9:50pm

IMAX THEATRE Texas State History Museum (1800 N. Congress), 936-IMAX.

Magnificent Desolation: Walking on the Moon 3-D: Fri-Sat, 12:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:00; Sun, 4:00, 7:00; Mon-Thu, 12:00, 4:00, 7:00

Roving Mars: Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00pm; Sun, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 6:00, 8:00; Mon-Thu, 11:00am, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 6:00, 8:00pm

Texas: The Big Picture: Fri-Sat, 10:00am, 2:00pm; Sun, 2:00pm; Mon-Thu, 10:00am, 2:00pm

LAKELINE STARPORT Lakeline Mall at Highway 183 and RR 620, 335-4793. Discounts daily before 6pm; all day Wednesday.

Big Momma's House 2: 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe: 12:40, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00

End of the Spear: 12:55, 4:30, 7:20, 10:05

Fun With Dick and Jane: 11:55am, 2:20, 4:40, 7:05, 9:50pm

Glory Road: 1:00, 4:10, 7:10, 9:55

Hoodwinked: 12:20, 2:50, 5:00, 7:30, 9:40

Last Holiday: 12:50, 4:20, 7:15, 10:10

Nanny McPhee: 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:20

Underworld: Evolution: 12:00, 2:30, 5:20, 7:50, 10:25

METROPOLITAN South I-35 at Stassney, 447-0101.

Annapolis: 11:45am, 2:20, 4:55, 7:35, 10:20pm

Brokeback Mountain: 12:40, 4:10, 7:20, 10:30

Casanova: 12:50, 3:50, 7:05, 9:55

End of the Spear: 12:35, 4:35, 7:30, 10:25

Grandma's Boy: 12:50, 3:50, 7:05, 9:55

Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire: 11:40am, 3:10, 6:40, 10:05pm

King Kong: 12:30, 4:45, 9:30

The Matador: 12:10, 2:45, 5:15, 8:15, 10:45

Memoirs of a Geisha: 11:55am, 3:15, 6:30, 9:50pm

Munich: 2:15, 6:20, 10:00

The New World: 12:25, 3:45, 7:00, 10:10

The Ringer: 12:00, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:35

Walk the Line: 12:20, 3:30, 7:10, 10:25

Wolf Creek: 1:00, 4:20, 7:25, 10:00

MILLENNIUM THEATRE 1156 Hargrave, 472-6932. Located within the Millennium Youth Entertainment Complex.

Saw II: Fri-Sat, 6:00, 8:30; Wed-Thu, 3:15, 5:15

Zathura: Fri-Sat, 10:30am, 1:00, 4:15pm; Wed-Thu, 10:30am, 1:00pm

PARAMOUNT THEATRE 713 Congress, 472-5470.

Barton Fink: Fri, 7:00pm

Fight Club: Fri, 9:30pm; Sun, 7:00pm

Miller's Crossing: Sun, 4:30pm

► An asterisk (*) before a title means that no passes or special admission discounts will be accepted.

ROUND ROCK 8 2120 N. Mays (Round Rock), 512/388-2848. Discounts daily before 5pm.

***Annapolis:** Fri, 1:20, 4:10, 7:50, 10:20; Sat, 10:45am, 1:20, 4:10, 7:50, 10:20pm; Sun, 10:45am, 1:20, 4:10, 7:50pm; Mon-Thu, 1:20, 4:10, 7:50

***Big Momma's House 2:** Fri, 1:45, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30; Sat, 11:20am, 1:45, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30pm; Sun, 11:20am, 1:45, 4:20, 7pm; Mon-Thu, 1:45, 4:20, 7:00

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe: Fri, 3:45, 6:50, 10:00; Sat, 12:40, 3:45, 6:50, 10:00; Sun, 12:40, 3:45, 6:50; Mon-Thu, 3:45, 6:50

Glory Road: Fri, 1:10, 4:00, 7:10, 9:50; Sat, 10:30am, 1:10, 4:00, 7:10, 9:50pm; Sun, 10:30am, 1:10, 4:00, 7:10pm; Mon-Thu, 1:10, 4:00, 7:10

***Hoodwinked:** Fri, 2:30, 4:45, 7:30; Sat-Sun, 9:50am, 12:00, 2:30, 4:45, 7:30pm; Mon-Thu, 2:30, 4:45, 7:30

Last Holiday: Fri, 1:30, 4:30, 7:20, 10:05; Sat, 10:15am, 1:30, 4:30, 7:20, 10:05pm; Sun, 10:15am, 1:30, 4:30, 7:20pm; Mon-Thu, 1:30, 4:30, 7:20

***Nanny McPhee:** Fri, 2:45, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10; Sat, 9:55am, 12:20, 2:45, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10pm; Sun, 9:55am, 12:20, 2:45, 5:10, 7:40pm; Mon-Thu, 2:45, 5:10, 7:40

Syriana: Fri-Sat, 9:40pm

***Underworld: Evolution:** Fri, 2:00, 5:00, 8:00, 10:30; Sat, 11:0am, 2:00, 5:00, 8:00, 10:30pm; Sun, 11:0am, 2:00, 5:00, 8pm; Mon-Thu, 2:00, 5:00, 8:00

TINSELTOWN NORTH North I-35 and FM 1825 (Pflugerville), 512/989-8540.

***Annapolis:** Fri, 1:45, 4:25, 7:05, 9:45; Sat-Sun, 11:05am, 1:45, 4:25, 7:05, 9:45pm; Mon-Thu, 1:45, 4:25, 7:05, 9:45

***Big Momma's House 2:** Fri, 11:45am, 1:55, 2:25, 4:35, 5:50, 7:15, 7:45, 9:55, 10:25pm; Sat-Sun, 9:05am, 11:15, 11:45, 1:55, 2:25, 4:35, 5:50, 7:15, 7:45, 9:55, 10:25pm; Mon-Thu, 11:45am, 1:55, 2:25, 4:35, 5:50, 7:15, 7:45, 9:55, 10:25pm

Brokeback Mountain: Fri, 12:40, 3:50, 6:55, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 9:30am, 12:40, 3:50, 6:55, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu, 12:40, 3:50, 6:55, 10:00

Capote: 3:35, 10:05

Cheaper by the Dozen 2: Fri, 2:00, 4:30; Sat-Sun, 11:10am, 2:00, 4:30pm; Mon-Thu, 2:00, 4:30

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe: Fri, 12:20, 3:40, 6:50, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 9:00am, 12:20, 3:40, 6:50, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu, 12:20, 3:40, 6:50, 10:15

End of the Spear: Fri, 1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 10:30am, 1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50pm; Mon-Thu, 1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50

Fun With Dick and Jane: Fri, 12:00, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:55; Sat-Sun, 9:15am, 12:00, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:55pm; Mon-Thu, 12:00, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:55

Glory Road: Fri, 1:45, 4:45, 7:10, 7:45, 10:10, 10:35; Sat, 10:45am, 1:45, 4:45, 7:10, 7:45, 10:10, 10:35pm; Sun-Thu, 1:45, 4:45, 7:10, 7:45, 10:10, 10:35

Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire: 11:50am, 3:20pm

***Hoodwinked:** Fri, 11:50am, 2:20, 4:50, 7:20pm; Sat, 9:20am, 11:50, 2:20, 4:50, 7:20pm; Sun, 11:50am, 2:20, 4:50, 7:20pm

Hostel: 9:45pm

King Kong: Fri, 1:00, 5:05, 9:00; Sat-Sun, 9:10am, 1:00, 5:05, 9:00pm; Mon-Thu, 1:00, 5:05, 9:00

Last Holiday: Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu, 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20

The Matador: Fri, 2:00, 4:30, 7:10, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 11:10am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:10, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu, 2:00, 4:30, 7:10, 10:10

Memoirs of a Geisha: 12:10, 6:45

***Nanny McPhee:** Fri, 11:40am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20pm; Sat, 9:00am, 11:40, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20pm; Sun-Thu, 11:40am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20pm

***The New World:** 12:05, 3:25, 6:45, 10:05

The Ringer: 11:45am, 5:15, 10:30pm

Syriana: 6:55, 10:00

Tristan & Isolda: 2:10, 7:40

***Underworld: Evolution:** Fri, 1:20, 1:50, 4:10, 4:40, 7:00, 7:30, 9:50, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 10:30am, 11:00, 1:20, 1:50, 4:10, 4:40, 7:00, 7:30, 9:50, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu, 1:20, 1:50, 4:10, 4:40, 7:00, 7:30, 9:50, 10:30

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***Big Momma's House 2:** Fri-Sun, 10:30am, 11:25, 1:00, 2:00, 3:30, 4:55, 6:50, 7:40, 9:15, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu, 1:00, 2:00, 3:30, 4:55, 6:50, 7:40, 9:15, 10:15

Cheaper by the Dozen 2: Fri-Sun, 10:45am, 1:05, 3:50, 6:40, 9:20pm; Mon-Thu, 1:05, 3:50, 6:40, 9:20

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe: Fri-Sun, 10:50am, 12:45, 1:55, 4:15, 5:00, 8:10pm; Mon-Thu, 12:45, 1:55, 4:15, 5:00, 8:10

Fun With Dick and Jane: Fri-Sun, 10:40am, 12:55, 3:35, 7:00, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu, 12:55, 3:35, 7:00, 9:30

Glory Road: Fri-Sun, 10:25am, 11:20, 1:15, 2:10, 4:00, 4:55, 7:05, 7:45, 9:50pm; Mon-Thu, 1:15, 2:10, 4:00, 4:55, 7:05, 7:45, 9:50

Hoodwinked: Fri-Sun, 11:05am, 1:30, 4:20, 7:20, 10pm; Mon-Thu, 1:30, 4:20, 7:20, 10:00

Hostel: 12:50, 3:25, 7:10, 8:00, 9:35, 10:20

Last Holiday: Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 1:35, 4:30, 7:30, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu, 1:35, 4:30, 7:30, 10:10

***Nanny McPhee:** Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 1:25, 4:25, 7:15,

slightly – if you're open to experiencing them, despite the artless way the film often tries to express those values. In that regard, *End of the Spear* might prick even the most hardest of hearts.

– Steve Davis

★★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

NANNY MCPHEE

D: Kirk Jones; with Emma Thompson, Colin Firth, Kelly Macdonald, Celia Imrie, Angela Lansbury, Derek Jacobi, Patrick Barlow. (PG, 98 min.)

"There should be more movies like this," opined one grandmotherly type to another at our screening. Based on Christianna Brand's Nurse Matilda books and featuring an A-list cast of British character actors, *Nanny McPhee* is indeed something of a rarity: a movie for children that is about children and their world. There are no aliens in it, no cartoon animals, and no fast-food restaurants. (Partly this is due to the turn-of-the-century setting, but it's also a matter of the film's tone.) And while the kids – seven of them – are pretty much wisenheimers, they are not cooler-than-thou, and the adults in their lives aren't blithering idiots, but flawed people who make mistakes until they reach a point of reckoning. However, to reach the movie's very old-fashioned message – that families must cooperate, listen to one another, and respect one another, children and adults alike – the viewer runs a gauntlet of Edwardian slapstick, and I am sad to say that there are pigs dressed as women and a mule "cutely" animated with CGI. (The children in my audience were less obviously entranced by these antics than the filmmakers might have hoped.) And per the custom of children's entertainment, we've had to Kill Off the Mother, and please don't get me started about that. I am not familiar with the Nurse Matilda books, but Nanny McPhee (Thompson) resembles Betty MacDonald's Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle more than she does Mary Poppins: She's darkly magical, and her discipline techniques involve extending the children's behavior to their consequences *in extremis*. Faked illness gets magically enforced bedrest and vile medicine that wriggles around on the spoon like Flubber. (In one scene, a baby is mildly endangered, causing prolonged distress to a 3-year-old next to me.) After she swoops in to the rundown manor of a widowed mor-

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MUNICH (11:25 3:00) (7:00 10:30)
RUMOR HAS IT (4:10/ 10:25)
BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN (11:25 3:20) (7:10 10:30)
SYRIANA (11:40) 1:55 (11:40) 1:55 (11:40) 1:55

ANNAPOLIS (11:15 4:00) (7:05 10:30)
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Lunafest 2006

Lunafest 2006 Reel Women. Lunafest is a national touring festival of films by, for, and about women. This year's winners cover a wide array of topics that address what it means to be a woman in the 21st century. In addition to providing national exposure for emerging women filmmakers, Lunafest also supports communities by donating a portion of the proceeds from the festival to the Breast Cancer Fund, as well as to local host organizations. This year's presentation includes "Backseat Bingo" by Liz Blazer, "One Weekend a Month" by Eric Escobar, "Tahara" by Sara Rashad, "Blessing" by Suju Vijayan, "Twilight" by Victoria Gamburg, "Perfection" by Karen Lin, "Laying Down Arms" by Carol Schreder, and "Mabel's Saga" by JoDee Samuelson. Also, filmmaker Suju Vijayan will attend as a special guest. For complete film descriptions see www.lunabar.com/community/lunafest.cfm?DocumentId=315. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, Sunday, 1pm; \$10.

tician (Firth) and starts kicking magical ass with his seven hellions, Nanny McPhee's likewise magical warts vanish, and by film's end Thompson looks hot, younger, and thin again; if this notion offends, parents could turn it into a teachable moment with wee viewers. The kids are all fine, and I particularly liked Thomas Sangster (*Love, Actually*) as the oldest, but it's the adults who are having a field day. Lansbury is a hoot as the detestable Aunt Adelaide ("What are we doing milling about this dreary vestibule?" she shrieks. "Sherry at once!"), and there are no words to describe the estimable Imelda Staunton as the family's excitable cook. The film's producers – the prolific Eric Fellner and Tim Bevan of Working Title Films – have tried family-film adaptations before (2004's *Thunderbirds* and 1997's *The Borrowers*), but this is probably their most watchable all-ages effort to date. Parents might appreciate a lighter hand with the barnyard whimsy and food fights, but overall the movie doesn't condescend about heavy matters (grief, healing, and blended families) and is pleasantly diverting. – *Marrit Ingman*

★★★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

SPIKE & MIKE'S SICK & TWISTED FESTIVAL OF ANIMATION 2006

D: Various. (90 min.)

No one's ever going to confuse Spike & Mike's annual festival of gross-out cartoons with cutting edge animation – unless it's the cutting edge on the broken bottle shard

or the rusty switchblade that seems to cut to the heart of so many of the long-running anthology program's more, um, razored offerings. No, S&M cuts right to the heart of the puerile, scatological 3-year-old in all of us, and then yanks that puppy right out and begins gnawing away, more often than not with a big, goofy grin that says, "Look ma, no fear!" Of course, being a scattershot affair in its best years, it often seems to also be crowing, "No brains!" or "No moral compass!" But, heck, that's cool – precious few of us ever let Wile E. Coyote's clear and present lack of ethical jurisdiction impair our enjoyment of his Acme-assisted death rattles then or now. It's fun to watch 'toons suffer all manner of grisly fates simply because in the real world it's impossible and, more often than not, just not that entertaining once you wear out that initial copy of *Death Scenes*. So know this going in: Sex and violence are the currency of S&M's gory, twisted economy. How much you want to invest in the proceedings is entirely up to you. Caveats aside, this year's crop of bad juju runs the gamut from festival standby "No Neck Joe," an early series of short comic bits from Dallas Craig McCracken (who would later go on to create the vastly superior *Powerpuff Girls*), to Thomas Schoeber's inspired "Pinata," a three-minute-and-forty-second slice of computer-generated absurdity that posits an anthropomorphic piñata struggling to avoid the slings and arrows (and truncheons, apparently) of its cruel existence. It's a single joke gag, but the payoff is one of this years more adroit yuks and handled with something approaching genuine wit. That's not always so for the rest of the collection, which, as in years past tends to rely too much on the animated equivalent of daily-strip-from-hell *The Family Circus*: little setup followed by even less payoff. After a while, you get the nagging feeling that many of the short films here, while they may be inarguably sick and twisted, are serving as little more than brief calling cards for their makers. How else to explain the deadly dull, one-note chuckle of Patrick Walker's "Odius Lepus" or Andrea Shear's Tim Burtonesque retelling of Jack and Jill? Neither film expends more than the bare minimum needed to reach its quick, unremarkable conclusion and, as with several other of this year's shorts, they barely qualify as either sick or twisted in a global animation milieu that's marked these days by the truly warped worlds of *hentai* animé on the one side and Cartoon Network's genuinely subversive Adult Swim on the other. Only one film, the nine-minute-long, live-action-meets-animation howler "Save Virgil," lodges in the mind long enough to be considered a genuine success, and – oh, the ignominy – that one stars former *Love Liner* Adam Carolla. Save us, Ralph Bakshi. – *Marc Savlov*

★★ Alamo Drafthouse Downtown

TRANSAMERICA

D: Duncan Tucker; with Felicity Huffman, Kevin Zegers, Fionnula Flanagan, Elizabeth Peña, Graham Greene, Burt Young, Carrie Preston. (R, 103 min.)

Bree (Huffman) wants nothing more than to be an ordinary woman. The last thing on her mind is being a father. But Bree is a preoperative transsexual who's on the verge of surgically severing all vestiges of her heretofore life as Stanley when she receives her first notice of the existence of a 17-year-old son she sired during a college sexual fling as a man. Bree has been

outwardly living as a woman in Los Angeles, awaiting imminent sexual reassignment surgery – the final step in her transformation. But her psychiatrist (Peña) refuses to sign off on the surgery until Bree makes contact with Toby (Zegers), the son she never knew she had, who is locked in a New York City jail and in need of bail. So with nothing more than the wish to fulfill her psychiatrist's imposed prerequisites, Bree dips into her meager funds to travel to New York and bail out her son. Her conservative fashion sense causes Toby to presume she is a do-gooder missionary, a misconception she does nothing to dissuade him of. Her plan is to drive Toby to his stepfather's home in the Midwest, although Toby's plan is to go to L.A. to seek out his unknown father. Thus begins the odd-couple road trip, which is marred by several melodramatic and/or pointless potholes along the way. Huffman's commanding performance in the gender-bending lead role is the primary reason to see *Transamerica*. It's the kind of performance we love to love in which we can tangibly see the actorly process at work: The part has already earned the Desperate Housewife a Golden Globe. However, there is little beyond Huffman's always fascinating turn as Bree to maintain our interest. Stops at Toby's stepfather's and later at Bree's parents' home are arch and digressive. Writer-director Duncan Tucker does little to develop his narrative setup beyond the basic and obvious, and his film begins to feel more like an exercise than a fully realized story. We're to believe that the process of learning to become a father will indeed make Bree a better woman, but unless there's a sequel we'll never learn the truth of that concept. – *Marjorie Baumgarten*

★★★ Arbor

UNDERWORLD: EVOLUTION

D: Len Wiseman; with Kate Beckinsale, Scott Speedman, Shane Brolly, Bill Nighy, Michael Sheen. (R, 106 min.)

Len Wiseman and other genre directors of his ilk ought to take a tip from Morrissey – Paul Morrissey, of *Blood For Dracula*, that is – and note that horrific set-pieces gain less than nothing when overlaid with a splash of pummeling nü-metal. Morrissey, you'll recall, rendered Udo Kier's fey count positively sympathetic, thanks in large part to Claudio Gizzi's atmospheric strings, a not-inconsiderable task considering his star's penchant for playing to the bloody back row. The ongoing hostilities between the vampires and the werewolves

in *Underworld: Evolution*, however, are pockmarked by the discordant likes of Pusifer and Slipknot, outfits whose cascading rains of sheet metal can do little but distract from the gothy kick of watching Britbabe Kate Beckinsale pirouette the length of the screen whilst clad in skintight vinyl couture. Perhaps the soundtrack is meant as a humorous counterpoint to the grimly sacrosanct storyline, but I doubt it; the *Underworld* movies are nothing if not Very Serious Indeed. Too serious, I think. Beckinsale, who again plays the death-dealing vampire warrior Selene, is a natural and sinuously athletic performer of action, and it's a pleasure to watch her lay waste to the bad guys, be they CGI or flesh and blood. Hers is an economically no-nonsense grace – the opposite, say, of Uma Thurman's bloody-knuckled brawling in the *Kill Bills*. Here, with vampire/werewolf halfbreed Michael (Speedman) by her side, she's never too battered to pass up a bit of the old bleed-and-tickle, despite having just been inhu-manhandled by ur-vampire Marcus (Tony Curran). At least she's got her priorities straight. *Underworld: Evolution* suffers from a severe case of overplotting, which dovetails with its stridently serious tone but renders much of the film's lengthy backstory (you'll need to have seen the original, and recently, to muddle it out) a blur of political machinations between the warring clans. Marcus, sporting some nicely prehensile wings that look to be on loan from Go Nagai's *Devilman*, is seeking to free his imprisoned Lycan sibling William (Brian Steele) from an eternal imprisonment courtesy of the bad lads' dad, Corvinus (Sir Derek Jacobi, radiating gravitas), who long ago saw the error of his loins. He also wants Selene's head, if not mounted on a pike, then at the very least removed from the immediate location of her neck. And Marcus, sensibly, appears to be thirsting for little more than another round of hide-the-*blutwurst* with Selene. It all unfolds with the regularity of clockwork, sheathed in director of photography Simon Duggan's gunmetal blues and paced at roughly the speed of Jonathan Harker's Transylvanian carriage ride in Murnau's *Nosferatu*. Still, it's not quite quick enough to be anywhere near as gloomily engaging as the cast's original outing. – *Marc Savlov*

★★ Alamo Drafthouse Village, AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate



First Runs

*Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com. Dates at end of reviews indicate original publication date.

BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN

D: Ang Lee; with Heath Ledger, Jake Gyllenhaal, Michelle Williams, Anne Hathaway, Linda Cardellini, Randy Quaid. (R, 134 min.)

Enough with the "gay cowboy" label, a phrase that has a way of diminishing this amazing movie's focus and reach. *Brokeback Mountain* is a love story that's defined by its staggering heartbreak. The film is no more – or less – a gay cowboy movie than *Casablanca* is a hetero-émigré romance or *King Kong* is a love story between human and simian. The lovemaking in *Brokeback* is modestly filmed by modern standards, a choice made by director Ang Lee who, apart from his last film, *The Hulk*, has never misjudged public taste. The passage of 20 years in a frustrating state of limbo is what makes *Brokeback* the romantic tragedy it is: The love itself isn't sad, only its seeming impossibility. Although it's possible to point to some weak spots in *Brokeback*, there is no movie this year that has moved my heart more. (12/16/2005) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor, CM Barton Creek, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

CAPOTE

D: Bennett Miller; with Philip Seymour Hoffman, Catherine Keener, Clifton Collins Jr., Chris Cooper. (R, 98 min.)

Capote is a good film, but it hasn't closed the book on the subject, not by a long shot. First-time screenwriter Dan Futterman has narrowed his focus to the years surrounding Capote's work on the seminal *In Cold Blood*. The film provides an absorbing, if limited, look at the writing life: its physical and mental demands and its moral ambiguities. Director Miller (*The Cruise*) has created a film that is confident, mature, and measured, but I wonder if it isn't too controlled. The beats are all there; Capote's trajectory begins with a reporter's initial impartiality, slides into complicity, takes a hard-right turn into ruthlessness, and ends, finally, near catatonia as the killers' execution date looms. But the film doesn't linger in these states long enough. The fault does not lie with Hoffman (who doesn't so much act out Capote's distinctive mannerisms and high-pitched lisp as channel them); his performance is undeniably great. Everything else – solid, satisfying though it may be – falls short of that greatness. (10/28/2005) – Kimberley Jones

★★★★ Arbor, AMC Barton Creek Square, Dobie, Tinseltown North

CASANOVA

D: Lasse Hallström; with Heath Ledger, Sienna Miller, Jeremy Irons, Oliver Platt, Lena Olin, Omid Djalili. (R, 108 min.)

Hallström's latest is fine but unambitious, content with what it is – an arthouse trifle for the masses, with tricorned hats, corsets, and powdered wigs, a charming re-creation of 1750s Venice, musings on horseback about true and false love, a semihistorical basis, and ever so many ostensibly delightful romantic misapprehensions. Its characters do not have elaborately developed inner lives, and the story is one of those complex but boring parlor farce thinges. Aspects of the production are awfully PBS, and Hallström's direction is as sunny and bland as K-TEL. But he's still wonderful with his actors, and the ensemble cast is excellent, although Miller seems perilously unproven in this company. Ledger inhabits the role of history's famed horndog with ease and obvious delight. Best is Ledger's interplay with his valet, played by British-Iranian comic Djalili, who is a lovely, Fellini-esque foil. (They are the real couple in the film.) The standout star, however, is Platt. (01/06/2006) – Marrit Ingman

★★★ Arbor, CM Barton Creek, Metropolitan

CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2

D: Adam Shankman; with Steve Martin, Bonnie Hunt, Eugene Levy, Piper Perabo. (PG, 100 min.)

It's the snobs vs. the slob! And this holiday's no picnic! Choreographer-turned-director Shankman (Martin-starrer *Bringing Down the House*) takes the wheel of this unasked-for sequel, which fuses the original concept with the well-worn formula of the family-vacation romp (think *Summer Rental* and *The Great Outdoors*). The filmmakers stop short of actually exhuming John Candy, but they're otherwise shameless. When Tom Baker (Martine) corrals his brood of 12 for old-fashioned bonding up at

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Sun. - Thu. 12:15 2:25 4:45 7:05 9:25

★ UNDERWORLD: EVOLUTION (R) Fri. & Sat. 12:15 2:45 5:15 7:45 10:15 12:30
Sun. - Thu. 12:15 2:45 5:15 7:45 10:15

★ LAST HOLIDAY (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. 12:05 2:30 4:55 7:20 9:50 12:15
Sun. - Thu. 12:05 2:30 4:55 7:20 9:50

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Sun. - Thu. 1:40 9:40

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The President's Last Bang

The President's Last Bang (2005)

D: Im sang-soo; with Han Seok-gyu, Baek Yun-shik, Song Jae-ho, Kim Eung-su. (NR, 102 min.) **Austin Film Society: Official Evil – Political Thrillers in Cinema.** This South Korean film reimagines the events surrounding the 1979 assassination of President Park Chun-hee. The lead-up to the murder (a bloody massacre) is told from very human dimensions. The players all have their background stories, and the president's self-serving authority is shown to be contemptible, while gorgeous shots and ironic distance provide the icing on this bowl of kimchee. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, Tuesday, 7pm; AFS members free, \$4 general admission (online reservations at www.austinfilm.org).



the lake, the gang promptly runs afoul of Jimmy Murtaugh (Levy, the perennial B-comedy go-to guy), a corporate blowhard who owns the surrounding property with his blow-up trophy wife (Electra, who gamely makes sport of herself). Hunt is marvelous and down-to-earth, but the rest of the movie is as funny as mildew, unless you really like watching Martin dance like a dork and get socked in the scrotum, or you really need to see Electra getting humped by a dog. (12/23/2005) – *Marrit Ingman*
★★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE

D: Andrew Adamson; with Georgie Henley, Skandar Keynes, William Moseley; with the voice of Liam Neeson. (PG, 135 min.)

This is fusillade No. 1 in Disney's presumed seven-film adaptation of C.S. Lewis's beloved children's tales, in which the four Pevensie children are sent by their mother to the English countryside where they encounter a magical wardrobe that functions as the portal to the miraculous land of Narnia, ruled by the White Witch (Swinson), an evil character intent on enslaving the more sun-dappled

areas, held by the wise and noble lion Aslan (voiced by Neeson). There's much to dine on visually, but the fact of the matter – whether you fell in love with the seven *Narnia* books as a child or not – is that \$150 million no longer seem to add up to very convincing special effects, and in a world populated by a hodgepodge of mythic beasts, that's a huge problem. The film's rapid, almost video-game sense of narrative means there's no sense of calm before the gathering storm because the film is *all* storm. (12/09/2005) – *Marc Savlov*

★★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

DARWIN'S NIGHTMARE

D: Hubert Sauper. (NR, 107 min.)

Darwin's Nightmare explores the myriad interstitial connections, the causes and the effects, and the end result of globalism on the Tanzinian people it was presumed to help. The prognosis is beyond ghastly, moving via Sauper's exhausting interviews with the local populace, workers, factory management, prostitutes, the Western industrialists, and, most tellingly, the pilots of the massive Russian-made cargo planes that fly out tonnage after ton-

nage of Nile perch filets every single day. Which prompts the question: What do they fly in? *Darwin's Nightmare* examines, in minute detail, and with the steady albeit jaundiced gaze of a fly-on-the-cemetery wall, the relationship between a homogenous local population reliant on the whims of a large and morally questionable government-sanctioned enterprise. Sauper's film is far more than just a cinematic exposé of the West's African skullduggery; it's also a masterful work of art, rife with visual metaphors and images of such shockingly banal despair that they short-circuit our notion of reality. (01/20/2006) – *Marc Savlov*

★★★★ Dobie

THE FAMILY STONE

D: Thomas Bezucha; with Sarah Jessica Parker, Diane Keaton, Claire Danes, Dermot Mulroney, Craig T. Nelson, Rachel McAdams, Luke Wilson. (PG-13, 102 min.)

In plotting her next career move, it makes sense that Parker would want to avoid typecasting and steer clear of any flirty, free-spirit types like Carrie Bradshaw. But methinks Parker may have tipped too far in the other direction: No one's going to confuse this latest role – as Meredith, an uptight woman meeting her boyfriend's family for the first time – with the impish Carrie. (As if you didn't know there's a midmovie transformation coming.) The Stones are a fiercely protective, clique-ish clan and none-too-impressed with Meredith, so the subtle sabotage begins. There is some romantic intrigue, as well, but I'm disheartened to report that there's not a lick of chemistry here. The real love affair here is among the Stone family, and there are just too many damn characters, with the best ones taking a back seat to the dullish love quadrangle. (12/16/2005) – *Kimberley Jones*

★★★ Gateway

FUN WITH DICK AND JANE

D: Dean Parisot; with Jim Carrey, Téa Leoni, Alec Baldwin, Richard Jenkins, Jeff Gartin. (PG-13, 90 min.)

When the first version of this movie appeared in 1977 it meshed perfectly with its times – a little countercultural, a lot class-conscious, and a touch subversive. This remake arrives starring two

of today's most prominent comedy top-liners, but the movie is missing any insidious edge. The story, about an upper-middle-class married couple who hit an unexpected downturn when the husband loses his job due to the corporate malfeasance of others, seems perfectly suited to our current era of corporate scandal. Although hewing pretty closely to the original, the remake shares little of the realism and down-to-earth humor that made the original work so well. In both cases, the couples turn to bank robbery to solve their financial crises, but in the new version the crimes are so overblown and badly staged that it's impossible to believe anyone actually gets away with them. Carrey delivers farce when what is needed is satire. (12/23/2005) – *Marjorie Baumgarten*

★★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

GLORY ROAD

D: James Gartner; with Josh Lucas, Derek Luke, Emily Deschanel, Jon Voight, Austin Nichols. (PG, 106 min.)

The frequently rousing *Glory Road* presents a fictionalized account of what many count as the most significant NCAA basketball game ever played, between Don Haskins' underdog Texas Western (now UTEP) and Adolph Rupp's perennial powerhouse Kentucky in the 1966 championship title game. The significance – beyond being a corker of a game – came down to Haskins' then-revolutionary call to start five black players on the paint. After a zippy opening montage of historical footage that sets up the racial tensions of the time (and kicks off the film's terrific, era-specific soundtrack), the more formulaic aspects of *Glory Road* kick in. The players, portrayed by a host of charismatic, mostly unknown actors, are largely reduced to quirks; a one-note Lucas stalks through every scene, belly-first and bellowing all the way; and the script hangs on ready-made metaphors. *Glory Road* really isn't a bad show – it's just an obvious one. (01/13/2006) – *Kimberley Jones*

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Village, AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

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★ GOOD NIGHT, AND GOOD LUCK

D: George Clooney; with David Strathairn, Robert Downey Jr., Patricia Clarkson, Ray Wise, Frank Langella, Jeff Daniels, George Clooney, Dianne Reeves. (PG, 93 min.)

Director and co-screenwriter George Clooney strikes just the right tone in this screen story of TV newsman Edward R. Murrow's courageous battle in the Fifties against the Commie-baiting Sen. Joseph McCarthy. Filmed in lovely black and white that blends smoothly with the historical footage used in the film, *Good Night, and Good Luck* also manages a successful merger between gripping entertainment and understated cautionary tale. The story's implications for the present are there for the taking but are never pounded home. The film does not attempt a rounded portrait or biographical survey of this journalist's journalist. Nor does it attempt to lionize the man and his deeds. Instead, the film provides a more general portrait of the times and the fear and paranoia that ran rampant because of the Communist witch hunts and loyalty oaths that were de rigueur in the workplace. As the revered Murrow, Strathairn delivers the performance of his career. (10/21/2005) — Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★★ Dobie

GRANDMA'S BOY

D: Nicholas Goossen; with Allen Covert, Nick Swardson, Peter Dante, Linda Cardellini, Shirley Jones, Shirley Knight, Doris Roberts, Kevin Nealon, Rob Schneider. (R, 96 min.)

It's gross, it's cheesy, and it's baked beyond all reasonable limits, but this comic soufflé still manages to be goofily entertaining beyond all expectations. This THC-and-Xbox-inflected tale of a 36-year-old video-game tester (Covert) who moves in with his grandmother (Roberts) and her two elderly roommates (Jones and Knight) after being evicted from his apartment borders on being so bad that

it's good, but somehow holds the course through sheer wingnut wackiness. Produced under the banner of Adam Sandler's Happy Madison Productions, this mines much the same territory as early Sandler hits. The comedy in *Grandma's Boy* (and there are far more belly laughs than you might anticipate) pokes occasionally smart, knowing fun at gamers, stoners, and the developmentally arrested horndog (and horndogette) in all of us, and comes almost entirely from the genius comic timing and inspired silliness of co-writer and co-star Swardson. The rest of the film is trashy, niche-marketed fun. Stupid, yes, but fun nonetheless. (01/13/2006) — Marc Savlov

★★ Metropolitan

★ HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE

D: Mike Newell; with Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint, Emma Watson, Robbie Coltrane, Ralph Fiennes. (PG-13, 157 min.)

This fourth *Potter* film is qualitatively different from its cinematic forebears: It doesn't linger on the gothic curlicues of its source material, it moves straightforwardly from place to place, and it emphasizes the emotional development of its characters with dramatic interplay rather than expressionistic, atmospheric gloom. Newell understands that the real thrust of the source material is its characters' passage into adolescence, so he keeps a tight rein on author J.K. Rowling's airy digressions into magical whimsy and takes us right into the heart of the beast: teenage hormones, fallings-out with friends, meeting weird kids from other schools, being hated by your schoolmates, fearing your new teacher yet again, and having to slow dance. Parents should be aware that it's more explicitly violent but really its execution is more adult in a variety of ways, and correctly so. (11/18/2005) — Marrit Ingman

★★★★ Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

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HOODWINKED

D: Cory Edwards, Todd Edwards, Tony Leech; with the voices of Anne Hathaway, Glenn Close, Jim Belushi, Patrick Warburton, Anthony Anderson. (PG, 80 min.) This animated update of the Little Red Riding Hood tale is a “fractured fairy tale” that’s designed to appeal to children and adults alike. It tells the story from several perspectives, *Rashomon* style. When a goody bandit is loose in the woods, a police investigation gets under way to discover precisely what occurred when Red (voiced by Hathaway) came to visit her grandma (Close) but found the Wolf (Warburton) in Granny’s bed as the old woman tumbled out of the closet and the Woodsman (Belushi) came suddenly crashing through the window. Each character relates their version of events, and it turns out that, upon full disclosure, each has something to hide. The film’s voice talent is good, as are the characterizations. However, the film’s computer animation leaves much to be desired. Thankfully brief song interludes break up the action. *Hoodwinked* has lots of sass but little imagination. (01/13/2006) – Marjorie Baumgarten ★★ CM Barton Creek, Gateway, Lakeline, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

HOSTEL

D: Eli Roth; with Jay Hernandez, Derek Richardson, Eythor Gudjonsson, Barbara Nedeljakova. (R, 95 min.) *Hostel* has the dubious honor of being the most anticipated horror film of the year – so far – and that’s rarely a good thing for a filmmaker, film, or audience. It’s actually two films in one. There’s the quasi-*Eurotrip* first half, with its ugly Americans rampaging through the EU’s flesh markets and drug bazaars, and then there’s the relentlessly bad vibes of what happens to our boorish antiheroes when they finally get their hands on “the good stuff.” And to top it off, I get the sneaking suspicion that Roth’s film, for all its grim sadism and dodgily sensual Eastern European porn-lite, is a comedy, albeit a blacker-than-black one, aimed squarely at the hearts and loins (if not minds) of Modern America – if we build it, you will cum. *Hostel* certainly delivers in the gore department, and Roth peppers the proceedings with various witty in-jokes. Still, there’s a feeling of not quite hitting the mark. (01/13/2006) – Marc Savlov ★★ Alamo Drafthouse Village, Highland, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

KING KONG

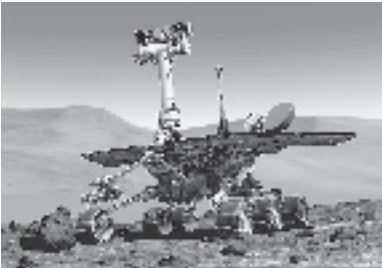
D: Peter Jackson; with Naomi Watts, Jack Black, Adrien Brody, Andy Serkis, Thomas Kretschmann, Jamie Bell, Colin Hanks, Evan Parke. (PG-13, 187 min.) Jackson’s remake of Merian C. Cooper’s 1933 cinematic godhead is more than the sum of its gargantuan parts; it’s also a sweet-natured romantic fable, albeit one that packs in carnivorous cockroaches, rampaging brontosaurus, and the ever-Freudian Empire State Building. It’s also a corker of an action/monster movie: part RKO serial; part square-jawed, manly romp; and part classic journey into the unknown that recalls and references, surprisingly and splendidly, Joseph Conrad’s *Heart of Darkness*. Jackson’s film is littered with canny references to Cooper’s original, but never fails to be its own unique hybrid. Much of that uniqueness, which makes the whole familiar story fresh again, comes from advances in special-effects technology. This half-human, half-CGI creation will make you reach for your hankie. The interplay between Watts’ melancholy blond and the great ape is almost too real to be believed. It’s enough to make you weep not only for the displaced and doomed Kong but for the nearly lost art of cinematic panache. (12/16/2005) – Marc Savlov ★★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Barton Creek, Highland, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

LAST HOLIDAY

D: Wayne Wang; with Queen Latifah, LL Cool J, Timothy Hutton, Giancarlo Esposito, Alicia Witt, Gérard Depardieu. (PG-13, 112 min.) I can tell you in two words why to see this movie, which is otherwise an unspecial Cinderella farce about a plain, shy New Orleans retail clerk’s whirlwind European holiday after she’s diagnosed with some improbable terminal ailment, and those two words are: Queen Latifah. Loosely based on J.B. Priestley’s 1950 screenplay for *Last Holiday* starring Alec Guinness, the film is shameless – shameless, I tell you – with its fantasy shopping sequences and sports slapstick and grand-hotel hijinks. Director Wang gorges the viewer on wish-fulfillment, while LL Cool J orbits the story as the good man who adores Latifah from afar. Latifah is far better than the movie is. If we are to live in a world of movies in which women are comically diagnosed with brain

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diseases and discover their moxie through base jumping in the Czech Republic, let us at least have Queen Latifah’s brass to add a bass note to the treacle. (01/13/2006) – Marrit Ingman ★★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

LOOKING FOR COMEDY IN THE MUSLIM WORLD

D: Albert Brooks; with Albert Brooks, Amy Ryan, Sheetal Sheth, Emma Lockhart. (PG-13, 98 min.) Perhaps only Albert Brooks, the master of angst-ridden comic self-doubt and oblivious boorishness, would have dared envision a comedy that, just as its point-blank title states, searches vainly for yucks in one of the most politically volcanic and cordite-scented flash points of the world. That he’s a Jew only adds to the increasingly ludicrous setup, and so when *Looking for Comedy in the Muslim World* peters out around the halfway mark, you can’t help but wonder if Brooks has bitten off more falafel than he can swallow. This uneven ride never delivers on its inherent promise of giving Yankee xenophobia the shellacking it so duly deserves. The occasional smart gefilte fish-out-of-water gag (Al-Jazeera offers him a sitcom titled *That Darn Jew!*), but for all its presumed bravado, *Looking for Comedy* is an essentially toothless affair, poking fun at American imperialism and its attendant cluelessness while never illuminating much beyond the obvious. (01/20/2006) – Marc Savlov ★★ Arbor, Westgate

MATCH POINT

D: Woody Allen; with Jonathan Rhys-Meyers, Scarlett Johansson, Emily Mortimer, Matthew Goode, Brian Cox, Penelope Wilton. (R, 124 min.) With *Match Point*, Woody Allen has made a perfectly nice little film – one that, despite lacking originality, is fresh in the sense that it was filmed in England, far from his beloved Manhattan, and does not feature the multihyphenate in an acting role. However, to hail *Match Point* as Woody Allen’s best work in years, as fans and reviewers are lining up to do, is to only become aware of how feeble that work has been. Pleasantly prosaic, *Match Point* is a diverting story of crime, love, and luck that conducts itself with a refreshing absence of moral judgment and omniscience. The movie is an ode to luck and to the acceptance of our role as the hapless pawns of a random universe. The storyline bears reminders of Allen’s magnificent *Crimes and Misdemeanors* and more directly, Theodore Dreiser’s classic novel *An American Tragedy*, which was made into the movie *A Place in the Sun*. (01/20/2006) – Marjorie Baumgarten ★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor, AMC Barton Creek Square

MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA

D: Rob Marshall; with Ziyi Zhang, Michelle Yeoh, Gong Li, Ken Watanabe, Kôji Yakusho. (PG-13, 145 min.) Well, we’re not in *Chicago* anymore, but that hasn’t stopped Oscar-nominated director Marshall from fashioning another epic spectacle out of two squabbling women in (a sort-of) show business. Based on the literary bestseller by Arthur Golden, *Memoirs of a Geisha* charts the impressive rise of a fishing-village indigent who, sold into servitude, eventually conquers her chief rival and all of Kyoto as its most powerful geisha, Sayuri (Zhang). The script unpacks a lot of practical information about the geisha lifestyle in a relatively gainly fashion. Sayuri’s circumstance and surroundings are historically fascinating things; her character, not so much. Zhang may just be too much of a firecracker to really sell the milquetoast Sayuri. Far more fun is Asian superstar Gong Li as Sayuri’s main competition. The film’s other chief pleasure – the spectacular set and costume design – exits with the pesky arrival of World War II into the plot. (12/23/2005) – Kimberley Jones ★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Arbor, CM Barton Creek, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

MUNICH

D: Steven Spielberg; with Eric Bana, Daniel Craig, Gíarán Hinds, Mathieu Kassovitz, Geoffrey Rush, Valeria Bruni Tedeschi, Yvan Attal. (R, 164 min.) Spielberg’s take on the events following the murders of 11 Israeli athletes at the 1972 Summer Olympic Games in Munich by the PLO faction Black September is riveting stuff. With its deeply ambiguous moral compass swinging from one extreme to the next, it’s also a horrifically topical meditation on the ultimate futility of vengeance, even when that vengeance seems entirely justified by previous events. Bana (*The Hulk*) plays Mossad agent Avner, who takes on this seemingly impossible mission with unlimited funding but not much else. He’s one of Spielberg’s most complex characters to date. There are obvious parallels to current events, of course, and Spielberg and screenwriter Tony Kushner (*Angels in America*) take tremendous pains to humanize both sides of the issue. *Munich* is dense, thoughtful filmmaking that nonetheless flies along as though it were tethered to the devil’s own sled. Seething not only with multilayered, subtextual arguments, it’s also a heck of a thriller. (12/30/2005) – Marc Savlov ★★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, CM Barton Creek, Gateway, Metropolitan, Westgate

THE NEW WORLD

D: Terrence Malick; with Colin Farrell, Q’Orianka Kilcher, Christopher Plummer, Christian Bale, August Schellenberg, Wes Studi, David Thewlis. (PG-13, 135 min.) Malick wishes to show the elements involved in the birth of America through the imagined interactions between the first Jamestown colonists who arrived in Virginia in the early 17th century and the “naturals,” as the settlers in this film call the natives. The film’s early sequences represents Malick at his most poetic and transcendently intuitive. In these days of the movie industry’s techno override, it’s good to have a Whitman-esque filmmaker whom we can rely on to venerate the blades of grass. However, instead of building on these sentiments in order to weave a tale about the collision between the “civilizing” and “natural” forces, Malick’s film goes all goofy and turns into an insipid love story between Capt. John Smith (Farrell) and the Indian princess Pocahontas (Kilcher). Although the feelings are implied, nothing carnal is actually seen. With only the largely unspoken love story to steer this middle section, *The New World* washes ashore like the same old jive. (01/20/2006) – Marjorie Baumgarten ★★ CM Barton Creek, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

PRIDE & PREJUDICE

D: Joe Wright; with Keira Knightley, Matthew Macfadyen, Brenda Blethyn, Donald Sutherland, Rosamund Pike, Jena Malone, Tom Hollander, Judi Dench. (PG, 127 min.) This fresh adaptation shakes the dust off Jane Austen’s novel and gives it a good airing out. The result is a witty and lovesick skirmish of the sexes that exceeds all expectations. The prickly courtship between the headstrong Lizzie Bennett (Knightley) and the sullen Mr. Darcy (Macfadyen) is one of English literature’s great romantic entanglements, and this screen version of *Pride & Prejudice* imbues their rocky relationship with a vitality that’s missing from most paint-by-number love stories. While the class and gender stratifications in Austen’s world may be uncomfortably retro for a contemporary audience, the film makes good use of them in contrast to the more egalitarian interactions between Lizzie and Darcy. Indeed, for all the talk about a woman’s need for marital protection and the manner in which the Bennett daughters flutter about every time there’s a bachelor afoot, there’s a plucky feminism in this movie, embodied by Knightley’s eye-opening performance as Lizzie. (11/11/2005) – Steve Davis ★★★★★ CM Barton Creek

THE PRODUCERS

D: Susan Stroman; with Nathan Lane, Matthew Broderick, Uma Thurman, Will Ferrell, Roger Bart. (PG-13, 134 min.) Oversexed octogenarians, queeny homosexuals, and obsessed Nazis all outrageously figured in Mel Brooks’ inspired 1968 comedy *The Producers*, a film that walked the fine line between the offensive and the funny with riotous effect. In the film version of the smash Broadway musical based on Brooks’ comic chestnut, however, the same material has little shock value by today’s standards. Still, the film’s showbiz schtick, which is grounded in the traditions of burlesque and vaudeville, can be pretty damn hilarious at times, thanks in large part to a cast led by Lane. But the wonderfully over-the-top performances often feel constrained by first-time film director Stroman, whose inexperience behind the camera is all too apparent. Her static camerawork (particularly in the musical numbers) undercuts a lot of the laughs. Sure, not every film musical these days needs to reinvent the genre in the manner of *Moulin Rouge* or *Chicago*, but Stroman’s flat and often lifeless direction does the film a disservice. (12/30/2005) – Steve Davis ★★ AMC Barton Creek Square

THE RINGER

D: Barry W. Blaustein; with Johnny Knoxville, Brian Cox, Katherine Heigl, Camille Chen, Geoffrey Arend, Bill Chott, Luis Avalos, Leonard Flowers, Edward Barbanell, Jed Rees, Leonard Earl Howze. (PG-13, 94 min.) It seems to me that a comedy that purports to have a message about treating the intellectually challenged as regular human beings and stars Johnny “*Jackass*” Knoxville is about as disingenuous as a comedy that urges us to see past a person’s body size to appreciate the beauty within and stars Gwyneth Paltrow in a fat suit. Oh wait. That’s *Shallow Hal*, you say, and the Farrelly brothers already produced that movie a few years ago (with brother Bobby also directing)? And now they’re back producing *The Ringer*, which happened to be filmed in the Austin/San Marcos area? This film takes a gauche premise – an average joe enters the Special Olympics as a ringer, confident he will win big money – and adds some comeuppance, romantic intrigue, and inspirational lessons. (12/23/2005) – Marjorie Baumgarten ★★ CM Barton Creek, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

RUMOR HAS IT ...

D: Rob Reiner; with Jennifer Aniston, Kevin Costner, Shirley MacLaine, Mark Ruffalo, Richard Jenkins, Mena Suvari. (PG-13, 96 min.) Fans of *The Graduate* should skip this strange comedy, which posits that the real-life inspiration for counterculture icon Benjamin Braddock grew up to be a cheesy, brainless high-tech zillionaire doing yoga and driving a Mercedes around Half Moon Bay. Baby-boomer Reiner has no qualms about selling out his generational cohort, and *Rumor Has It ...* is likewise aggressive with the Hollywood heartstrings – an unusual approach, since the script is pretty much off-the-wall. Saturnine Sarah (Aniston) discovers the family secret: Her grandmother (MacLaine) and mother inspired *The Graduate*’s Mrs. Robinson and Elaine, and their shared lover (Costner) might be her biological father. Once Aniston’s character rules out Costner’s paternity, they have sex, which creates a bizarre and uncomfortable scenario that Reiner plays like straight fluffy farce. In the hands of a more innovative director, we’d be invited to explore our revulsion. Instead, it’s passed off as a funny love triangle. (12/30/2005) – Marrit Ingman ★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Tinseltown South

SAW II

D: Darren Lynn Bousman; with Donnie Wahlberg, Shawnee Smith, Tobin Bell, Franky G., Glenn Plummer, Dina Meyer, Emmanuelle Vaugier, Beverley Mitchell. (R, 91 min.) *Saw II* is a nasty piece of work, reveling as it does in outright sadism and dancing dangerously close to having no idea in its grimy head other than how best to mindfuck its characters into oblivion. At the latter it does a fine job, dispatching an octet of strangers, who have awoken imprisoned in the booby-trapped house of horrors of serial killer Jigsaw (Bell). Jigsaw’s modus operandi, carried over from the first film, is to awaken the nascent survival instinct in his prey, thereby making them better people as a whole. It’s something of a flawed bill of goods he’s selling, however, as his elaborate contrivances and befouddlements continually net him not the finer specimens of humanity he allegedly seeks, but shell-shocked, thousand-yard starers and rat-food tartare. However, with nary a decent, connective character in sight, the film quickly becomes little more than a strenuous battle for survival among the already damned. (10/28/2005) – Marc Savlov ★★ Millennium

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★ THE SQUID AND THE WHALE

D: Noah Baumbach; with Jeff Daniels, Laura Linney, Jesse Eisenberg, Owen Kline, Halley Feiffer, William Baldwin, David Benger. (R, 80 min.)

The opening line lays it all out on the table: “It’s Mom and me versus you and Dad.” Young Frank (Kline) is merely delineating sides for a family game of tennis, but when that family – the Berkman of Park Slope, Brooklyn, circa 1986 – soon after dissolves in divorce, the opposing camps are pretty neatly summarized the same. Fifteen-year-old Walt (Eisenberg) sides with their father, Bernard (Daniels), a once-famous author whose reputation is in freefall. Frank is less obvious about it, but his heart is with his mother, Joan (Linney), whose own writing career is just taking off. The Berkman are all comical figures, but Baumbach never denies them their humanity. This is humor served not with a smirk but with a helpless shrug. (11/04/2005) — Kimberley Jones

★★★★ Dobie

★ SYRIANA

D: Stephen Gaghan; with George Clooney, Matt Damon, Jeffrey Wright, Christopher Plummer, Chris Cooper, William Hurt, Alexander Siddig. (R, 128 min.)

Like the saying about the butterfly flapping its wings on one side of the world and affecting currents on the other, *Syriana* shows how the multitentacled quest to control oil supplies in one part of the world can affect (both intentionally and inadvertently) people, lives, and decisions in another. *Syriana* is a challenging and uncompromising movie. Like writer-director Gaghan’s Oscar-winning adapted screenplay for *Traffic*, *Syriana* is a complexly structured narrative that follows several different characters and storylines that only begin to cohere into one larger story as the movie draws toward its climax. *Syriana* is more diffusely focused than *Traffic*, however. You’ll probably never feel completely clear about the activities of and relationships among all the characters, but it’s exactly this tangle that gives *Syriana* a true-to-life feel. There’s a lot to absorb here, but it’s refreshing to be in the midst of a movie that regards its audience as up to the task. (12/09/2005) — Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

TRISTAN & ISOLDE

D: Kevin Reynolds; with James Franco, Sophia Myles, Rufus Sewell, David O’Hara. (PG-13, 125 min.)

The plot elements have mutated over time, as the myth morphed from 12th-century French poetry to Arthurian offshoot and later, fodder for Wagner, but the story of the star-cross’d Irish princess and the Cornwellian knight who got bitten bad by the love bug has always been top of the charts in terms of tragic pairings. Alas and alack: This new version is a dopey, mopey, all-around bore. Screenwriter Dean Geogaris manages to gunk up the works with dialogue that is dull-witted at best and outright howling at its worst. Director Reynolds recalls none of the spryness of his 1991 blockbuster, *Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves*, and the titular lovers come off like horndog adolescents. Myles is all right, although her performance owes a major debt to her marvelous hair weave, but Franco is a disaster. (01/13/2006) — Kimberley Jones

★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

★ WALK THE LINE

D: James Mangold; with Joaquin Phoenix, Reese Witherspoon, Robert Patrick, Shelby Lynne, Ginnifer Goodwin, Larry Bagby, Tyler Hilt. (PG-13, 136 min.)

Musician Johnny Cash circumvented the rowdy mantrap of diminishing rock & roll returns by giving up his one true love – little white speed pills – for his other one true love – young Memphis country and gospel sasspot June Carter (Witherspoon). Joaquin Phoenix as Cash is the next best thing to having been there, I suppose, and although the sinner man’s early successes and echoing woes look chaotically entertaining indeed in that hellishly dashing sort of way young doomsters can exude, the wreckage he leaves in his wake is quick and obvious and banal. Only the steady output of his lonely locomotive guitar and plaintive, almost homely, voice made this bad Cash worth anybody’s jukebox dime. (11/18/2005) — Marc Savlov

★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo

Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM

Barton Creek, Gateway, Metropolitan

WOLF CREEK

D: Greg McLean; with John Jarratt, Cassandra Magrath, Kestie Morassi, Nathan Phillips. (NR, 99 min.)

Wolf Creek is essentially an accomplished Aussie version of *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre* – right from its “based on actual events” setup to the final shot of its boogeyman slipping into the sunset with his rifle like Leatherface and his chainsaw. It’s also a viscerally told slasher film that manages to do an awful lot with very little. With basically four characters and just a few sets, the film tells the story of three college-aged vacationers, who are kidnapped and held hostage by a crazy from the outback. Bound and tortured in a variety of grotesque and gruesome ways (particularly the women), the kidnappers spend the whole second half of the movie trying to make an escape. *Wolf Creek* exists for no reason other than to inflict an acute sense of inescapable and inscrutable torture upon the story’s victims – and, by extension, the audience. If that’s what you’re into, *Wolf Creek* should be a satisfying assault. (12/30/2005) — Marjorie Baumgarten

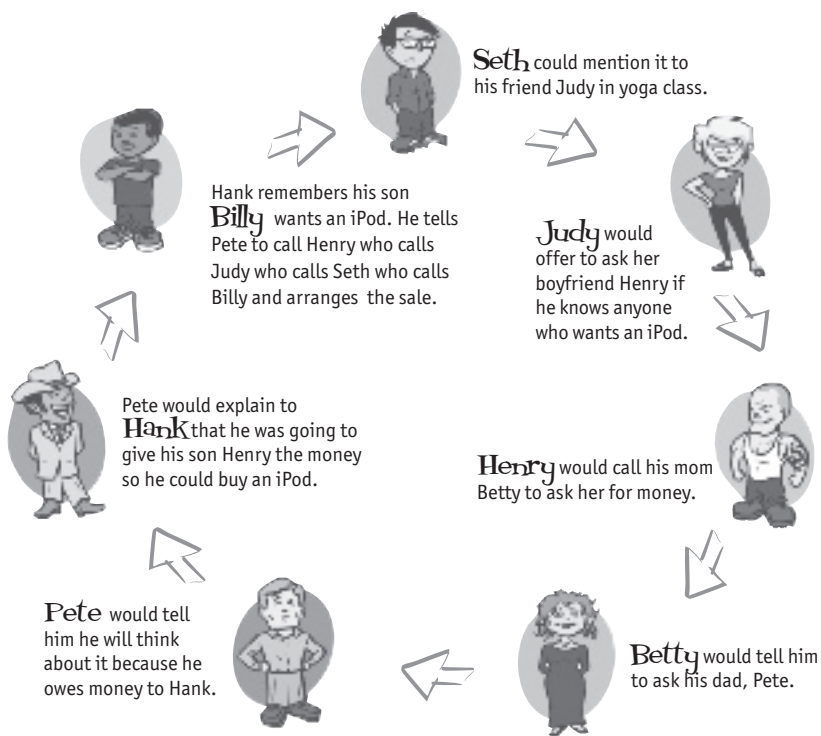
★★★ Metropolitan

★ ZATHURA

D: Jon Favreau; with Jonah Bobo, Josh Hutcherson, Dax Shepard, Kristen Stewart, Tim Robbins, Frank Oz, John Alexander, Derek Mears. (PG, 113 min.)

With his follow-up to *Elf*, actor-turned-director Jon Favreau sticks with family-friendly filmmaking, this time taking on the film version of Chris van Allsburg’s bestselling children’s book *Zathura*. This film succeeds in a way that neither of the previous van Allsburg film adaptations (*Jumanji*, *The Polar Express*) managed: It’s infused with a greater sense of fun and realism. Favreau keeps the picture throttling forward with a carefree charm: a space adventure that goes forth with a Buck Rogers attitude as silly gizmos, robots, and monsters turn from mildly goofy to dangerous and threatening in the blink of an eye. The tone of the fantasy and the effects are just right: enough to surprise and startle everyone and even spook the littlest ones, but so gleefully defiant of the laws of physics and aeronautics that it’s clear the film’s only objective is to have a good time. (11/11/2005) — Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★★ Millennium

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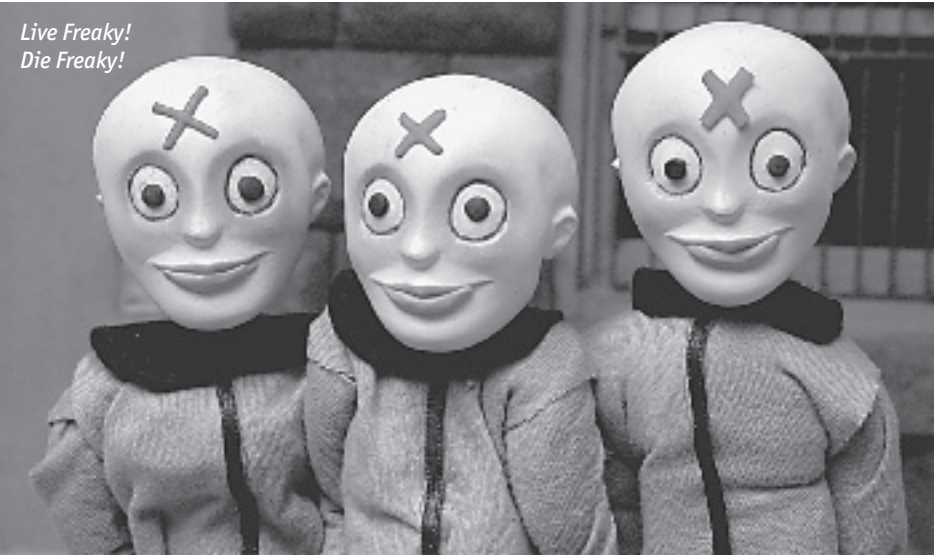
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Special Screenings

BY MARJORIE BAUMGARTEN

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Live Freaky!
Die Freaky!

THURSDAY 26

Open Screen Night @ the Alamo Two Note Solo. Something along the lines of an open-mic night, the Alamo's long-running Open Screen invites people to come and show their best videos (under 10 minutes in length) on the big screen. These can be self-made movies, favorite moments from home videos, bloopers, training films, or whatever you'd like to share with an audience. Any entry may be gonged after the first three minutes, but a \$100 cash prize will be awarded for the favorite clip of the night. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7:30pm.

Psychobilly Sickness (2005) *D: Ryan Davis and Duncan Garcia. (NR, 60 min.)* Documentary about the history of psychobilly music – its roots and growth in Europe and the U.S. Live performances by two of the Texas bands, Concombre Zombi and the Flametrack Subs, featured in the film, will follow. @Alamo Drafthouse South, 10pm.

Some Like It Hot Spicy Feast (1959) *D: Billy Wilder; with Marilyn Monroe, Tony Curtis, Jack Lemmon, Joe E. Brown. (NR, 119 min.)* Executive Chef James Holmes creates a four-course meal inspired by the Chicago jazz featured in the film, matched with a reasonable dash of heat and a matching wine pairing. See www.originalalamo.com for the menu. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 7pm; \$50.

FRIDAY 27

Barton Fink (1991) *D: Joel Coen; with John Turturro, John Goodman, Judy Davis, Michael Lerner, John Mahoney, Tony Shalhoub, Jon Polito, Steve Buscemi. (R, 117 min.)* For once, the Coen brothers' neurotic filmmaking style works to their advantage; it's giddily appropriate for a movie about a screenwriter who's losing his mind. (*) @Paramount, 7pm; \$7 adults (\$6 before 6pm), \$5 children/students/seniors.

Fight Club (1999) *D: David Fincher; with Edward Norton, Brad Pitt, Helena Bonham Carter, Ezra Buzzington, Eion Bailey, Zach Grenier, Jared Leto, Meat Loaf. (R, 140 min.)* There's no middle ground in *Fight Club*: Either you go with its berserker ethos or go nuts. (*) @Paramount, 9:30pm; \$7 adults (\$6 before 6pm), \$5 children/students/seniors.

Live Freaky! Die Freaky! (2003) A thousand years in the future, when the depletion of natural resources and ozone have made the surviving people desperate, they look for a savior and find it in Charles Manson. Supposedly grosser than a John Waters film and bloodier than *The Passion of the Christ*, the film is the directing debut of the L.A. punk veteran John Roecker. It's appearing this weekend at midnight screenings on the eve of its DVD debut next week. See p.47 of this week's Screens section for more on the movie. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

Sarah Silverman: Jesus Is Magic (2005) *D: Liam Lynch; with Sarah Silverman, Brian Posehn,*

Bob Odenkirk, Laura Silverman. (NR, 72 min.) Spotty comedy delivers on its promise of Total Silverman, but that turns out to be not such a good thing after all. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse South, 9:35, 11:35.

Videoke Act out scenes from various movies and win prizes. See www.originalalamo.com for details. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

SPACES

The Professional (1994) *D: Luc Besson; with Jean Reno, Gary Oldman, Natalie Portman, Danny Aiello. (R, 110 min.)* **I Luv Video.** Enigmatic hitman becomes unlikely caretaker of and mentor to the girl next door. (*) @Austin Java Cafe & Bar (1206 Parkway), 8pm; free. @Austin Java Cafe & Bar (1608 Barton Springs Rd.), 8pm; free.

SATURDAY 28

Live Freaky! Die Freaky! (2003) @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid. (See Fri., 01/27)

Raggedy Ann and Andy (1977) *D: Richard Williams; with the voices of Didi Conn, Mark Baker, Mason Adams. (G, 84 min.)* **Ain't It Cool News Kids Club.** Some very trippy scenes in this animated film in which the dolls come alive when left alone. @Alamo Drafthouse South, 12pm; free.

Sarah Silverman: Jesus Is Magic (2005) @Alamo Drafthouse South, 11:35pm. (See Fri., 01/27)

The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975) *D: Jim Sharman; with Richard O'Brien, Barry Bostwick, Susan Sarandon, Tim Curry. (R, 95 min.)*

Offscreen

Blowin' Up A Spot Film Festival: A Woman's Perspective It's the fifth annual iteration of this filmic celebration, coming to the Carver Museum in late April, and they want your films for consideration. Female filmmakers, actors, workshop presenters, and poets, check their Web site for the proper forms, then send your original cinematic treasures to: **PO Box 42188, Austin, TX 78704**. There is no entry fee. Deadline: *March 1*. www.blowinupaspot.com.

Reel Women International Film Festival RW's second international festival will be held March 23-26, in Los Angeles, Calif., and they're accepting submissions now. Categories include: features, documentaries, shorts, animation, and student films, all of which must be directed by women or written and produced by women. Check their Web site for more information. www.rwiff.com.

Student Digital Film Festival is a noncompetitive, nonprofit film festival open to students and teachers in Texas, grades K-12. ASDFF is free

Austin *Rocky Horror* fans have been dressing up and doing the "Time Warp" thing live for 28 years straight. For more info see www.austinrocky.org. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

SPACES

The Indigo Evolution (2006) *D: James Twyman and Kent Romney. (NR)* Documentary looks at the subject of indigo children, believed to be an evolutionary advance in global awakening. See www.liveoakuu.org for more info. @Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Church (Cedar Park), 7:30pm; \$10.

SUNDAY 29

Aguirre, the Wrath of God (1972) *D: Werner Herzog; with Klaus Kinski, Helena Rojo, Del Negro, Ruy Guerra. (NR, 100 min.)* **Werner Herzog Retrospective.** Although Herzog and Kinski made a total of five films together, *Aguirre* is the one that seals their reputation for crazy dynamics. Set in the 16th century, the film follows Spanish conquistadors traveling up the Amazon to look for gold. As the trip becomes increasingly perilous and fruitless, the men grow more ruthless and inane. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 4pm.

Fight Club (1999) @Paramount, 7pm; \$7 adults (\$6 before 6pm), \$5 children/students/seniors. (See Fri., 01/27)

Lunafest 2006 See p.78.

Miller's Crossing (1990) *D: Joel Coen; with Gabriel Byrne, Albert Finney, Marcia Gay Harden, John Turturro, Jon Polito, J.E. Freeman, Steve Buscemi. (R, 115 min.)* The Coen brothers go for the bravura in this highly stylized period gangster drama. Barry Sonnenfeld's stunning cinematography and the sharply etched characterizations make this film one for the ages. The convoluted story is really not as snarly as it seems, it's just that the filmmakers decided to make it thus. @Paramount, 4:30pm; \$7 adults (\$6 before 6pm), \$5 children/students/seniors.

SPACES

Forsaken (2006) *D: Ken Johnson. (NR, 80 min.)* Loosely based on the Book of Job, this locally made film is in Spanish and English. The filmmaker and cast will be in attendance. (*) @Dougherty Arts Center, 7pm; free.

MONDAY 30

It's All Too Beautiful: 1960s Promotional Videos Compiled by pop culture archivist Kent Benjamin and the Alamo's Kier-La Janisse, these are the kinds of things that preceded the birth of music videos. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm; \$1.

Rad (1986) *D: Hal Needham; with Bill Allen, Lori Loughlin, Talia Shire, Ray Walston, Alfie Wise, Jack Weston. (PG, 91 min.)* A BMX bike kids movie from the stuntman extraordinaire Hal Needham. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm; \$1.

SPACES

Gorky Park (1983) *D: Michael Apted; with William Hurt, Lee Marvin, Brian Dennehy, Ian*

Bannen, Joanna Pacula. (R, 130 min.) A crime in Moscow's Gorky Park opens a political can of worms for the investigating detective. @Cafe Mundi, 8pm; free.

Twin Peaks and Carnivale An episode of *Twin Peaks* screens at 7pm, followed by an episode of *Carnivale* at 8pm. Popcorn provided. @Beerland, 7pm; free, 21 and over.

TUESDAY 31

The President's Last Bang (2005) See p.80.

SPACES

Documentaries and Short Films Screenings on the back patio every Tuesday. @Austin Java Cafe & Bar (1206 Parkway), 8pm; free.

WEDNESDAY 01

Girl on a Chain Gang (1965) *D: Jerry Gross; with William Watson, Julie Ange, Ron Charles, Arlene Farber, Ron Segal. (NR, 96 min.)* **Weird Wednesday.** Exploitation film uses the issue of desegregation as a backdrop. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 12mid; free.

Make It Funky! (2005) *D: Michael Murphy. (NR, 110 min.)* **Soup Peddler Presents: Chillgumbo.** Documentary about New Orleans' rich musical heritage also includes all-star performances. A special menu has been prepared by the Soup Peddler. Proceeds benefit the New Orleans Musicians' Clinic. See www.originalalamo.com for menu. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm.

Trapped in the Closet: The R. Kelly Sing-Along **Austin Lyric Opera.** Rap along with R. Kelly, as a live cast from Austin Lyric Opera acts out the onscreen action and a bevy of props hidden around the room wait to be discovered. Hosted by the inimitable Henri Mazza. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 9:45pm.

Wal-Mart: The High Cost of Low Price (2005) *D: Robert Greenwald. (NR, 95 min.)* The latest from the muckraking filmmaker Robert Greenwald (*Uncovered: The War on Iraq* and *Outfoxed: Rupert Murdoch's War on Journalism*). @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm.

THURSDAY 02

SPACES

Diana's Hair Ego *D: Ellen Spiro.* **National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day.** The UT School of Social Work hosts this screening of Ellen Spiro's documentary *Diana's Hair Ego*, about two women,

IMAX Theatre

For ticket prices and showtimes call 936-IMAX or 936-TSHM or see www.thestoryoftexas.com.

Magnificent Desolation: Walking on the Moon 3-D (2005) *D: Mark Cowen; narrated by Tom Hanks. (NR, 40 min.)* What could be better than the illusion of walking on the moon? Tom Hanks co-produced and narrates this exploration of the lunar surface drawn from NASA footage and CGI images. Many famous actors read personal reminiscences of the 12 men who have walked on the moon. Fri.-Sat., 12, 4, 7, 9; Sun., 4, 7; Mon.-Thu. (2/2), 12, 4, 7pm

Roving Mars (2006) *D: George Butler; narrated by George Butler. (G, 40 min.)* Finally, an IMAX space film whose sole objective isn't to overwhelm us with its vastness. This film uses animation to re-create the experience of the Mars rovers, Spirit and Opportunity, on the faraway planet. The film is ably directed by Butler, whose terrific previous documentaries include *Pumping Iron* and *The Endurance: Shackleton's Legendary Antarctic Expedition*. Also effective is the score by Philip Glass. Thu. (1/26), 11am, 1, 3, 5, 6, 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 11am, 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10pm; Sun., 1, 3, 5, 6, 8; Mon.-Thu. (2/2), 11am, 1, 3, 5, 6, 8pm

Texas: The Big Picture (2003) *D: Scott Swofford; narrated by Colby Donaldson. (NR, 39 min.)* Panoramic shots of Texas grace the screen as Texas is shown to be a land capable of growing everything from grapefruit to microchips. Thu. (1/26), 1, 5; Fri.-Sat., 10am, 2pm; Sun., 2pm; Mon.-Thu. (2/2), 10am, 2pm

Festivals

Austin Jewish Film Festival: The Art of Reel-ism Weeklong festival celebrates the many facets of Jewish life. See austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2006-01-20/screens_feature.html section for story and complete schedule. See www.austinjff.org for full details. Thu (1/26); Fri @ Arbor

Austin Jewish Film Festival: The Art of Reel-ism Weeklong festival celebrates the many facets of Jewish life. See austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2006-01-20/screens_feature.html for story and complete schedule. See www.austinjff.org for full details Thu (1/26) @ The Hideout Theater

DiAna DiAna and Dr. Bambi Sumpter, who spearheaded AIDS awareness in Columbia, S.C., with DiAna's beauty salon serving as central command. The reception begins at 6pm, the film unspools at 7pm, and post-screening, there will be a discussion with Spiro and local African-American beauticians and barbers. @UT School of Social Work, 6pm; RSVP to Dr. Dorie Gilbert at dgm@mail.utexas.edu.

Murder in Harlem (1935) D: Oscar Micheaux; with Clarence Brooks, Dorothy Van Engle, Andrew Bishop, Alec Lovejoy, Laura Bowman. **Marching On: Independent African American Films From 1935-1950.** A remake of Micheaux's 1921 silent film, *The Gunsaulus Mystery*, to be

shown along with William D. Alexander's 1946 short, "Vanities," this is the first in a Black History Month series celebrating films written, produced, directed, and distributed by African-American filmmakers in the first, segregated half of the American 20th century. The curated series is sponsored by the University of Texas Office of Community and School Relations and the city Parks & Recreation Department and hosted by the Austin Convention & Visitors Bureau, and will include features, shorts, newsreels, and an exhibition of film posters, photographs, and other materials from the James E. Wheeler Collection. @Bass Lecture Hall, 7pm; free.

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K-Rino, Young Bleed BACK ROOM, FRIDAY 27

Way back in '86, as a member of Real Chill, K-Rino released one of the first rap albums out of Houston. The next year K-Rino formed South Park Coalition and along with the spirit of his recently deceased running partner A.C. Chill, the lanky rapper has been stalking lesser talents ever since. Pushing his *Worst Rapper Alive*, K-Rino is joined by Baton Rouge native Young Bleed, who's attempting to reinvigorate the success of his 1998 No Limit classic *My Balls & My Word*. Dallas' Money Waters and locals Basswood Lane and Smackola of the Dirty Wormz open.

— Robert Gabriel

Shake Your Ass Records Revue

BEERLAND, FRIDAY 27

Shake Your Ass Records is the Italian home for all things Austin. Celebrating the release of *Rock 'n' Roll Motherfucker Redux*, local pedal steel trio Chili Cold Blood headlines with a searing mix of blues, country, and rock. Local garage rock supergroup This Damn Town debuts their *This Time* 7-inch, and Possessed by Paul James brings the singular fire of his self-titled LP to the stage. Black Joe Lewis & Cool Breeze open with some old-school soul off their SYA self-titled 7-inch. The label that lives up to its name.

— Darcie Stevens



AUBREY EDWARDS

Soundcheck BY AUDRA SCHROEDER

STANLEY JORDAN

One World Theatre, Friday 27

Master of the “two-handed hammer-on” jazzes off.

EXPLOSIONS IN THE SKY

Emo's, Friday 27

Sold out.

BABY ROBOTS, ST 37, MY EDUCATION

Hole in the Wall, Saturday 28

Distortion, feedback, Sturm und Drang.

MANIKIN, THE CRUEL & UNUSUAL

The Parlor, Saturday 28

Punks blast off New Wave's Technicolor exterior to reveal the dark side of Manikin's latest, *Still*.

THE W.I.N.K.S., THE ENDS

Beerland, Saturday 28

All-girl punk rock hopped up on diet soda and ready to kick the Donnas' asses.

AN EVENING OF HIP-HOP AND GOOD TIMES

Room 710, Sunday 29

Wake Up Entertainment presents Minneapolis hip-hop from Omair Bliss and



Ozomatli

Abbey Wolf, with locals Zeale 32 and DJ Cassanova. Bavu Blakes hosts.

GEORGE WINSTON

One World Theatre, Wednesday 1 & Thursday 2

Sold out.

HORSE + DONKEY, BASIC

Beerland, Wednesday 1

Retina-burning jangle meets straight-up rock.

OZOMATLI

Paramount Theatre, Thursday 2

Multi-culti funk and hip-hop in your face.

BROWNOUT! VS. AFROFREQUE

Flamingo Cantina, Thursday 2

Grupo Fantasma offshoot pits Latin funk against neo-soul.

Chuck Berry

PARAMOUNT THEATRE, SATURDAY 28

Here come ol' flatop... he come grooving up slowly. He got ju-ju eye-ball, he one holy roller. John Lennon carjacked only the opening Coup deVille of the Beatles' “Come Together,” but rock & roll music's Henry Ford — Charles Edward Anderson Berry — still owns the patent. The Walrus' Dalí-esque, Bob Dylan's driving rain, and Keith Richards' jumping jack flash come forever mortgaged through St. Louis, Mo.'s duck-walking “Brown Eyed Handsome Man.” Direct descendant of Harlem Swing bands by way of Louis Jordan, Berry still wears no shoe shine, but when he holds you in arms, yeah, you can feel the disease that's infected youth culture since “Maybelline” started doing those things she used to do. Roll over, Austin, you can't catch a break like this again, 'cause ol' Johnny B. Goode, he just do what he please. Come together, right now, at the Paramount.

— Raoul Hernandez



Neil Young Tribute STUBB'S, SATURDAY 28

Local indie Almost There Records hosts another tribute night, this one kicking off what's shaping up to be the Year of Neil Young in Austin. Flannel-wearers Milton Mapes, Grand Champeen, Tammany Hall Machine, and King Tears are joined by bands with less roots rock character like Tia Carrera, Golden Apples, Missing Tapes, Militant Babies, Superego, Hackberries, Gleeson, and Mandible. Expect a hearty overview of Young's multifaceted career, more “Rockin' in the Free World” than “Sugar Mountain.”

— Jim Caligiuri

Metropolis/The Arm, Lomita

ROOM 710, SATURDAY 28

As primary architects of the Alamo Drafthouse's now dormant series of silent film classics paired live with original scores performed by Austin acts, Brown Whörnet's Peter Stopschinski and Golden Arm Trio's Graham Reynolds emerge from their compositional laboratory with the franchise debut. *Metropolis*, Fritz Lang's 1927 expressionist mindfuck, remains the *Blade Runner* of its day, set in the sci-fi surreality of NYC 2000. Marriage to a rock backdrop dates back to Giorgio Moroder, 1984, but Austin's Wright brothers of DIY classical make it fly at 8pm. Afterward, the Arm cranks up the hellfire, Lomita gets blissed out, and When Dinosaurs Ruled the Earth stomps prog.

— Raoul Hernandez

Scarface

ANTONE'S, SUNDAY 29

As the godfather of Texas rap, Scarface doesn't depend on trendy gimmicks to draw attention and praise. Having parlayed his Geto Boys credentials into a formidable solo career, Brad Jordan diverges from the syrup set by performing his emotional appeals with a live band called the Product. A fan of rock and an extension of the classic soul sound, Scarface is recording Sunday night's festivities for a DVD. Local rapper Zeale 32 opens and Dat Boy Mikee hosts.

— Robert Gabriel



Criteria, Limbeck EMO'S, SUNDAY 29

Former Cursive guitarist Stephen Pedersen has filled his requirement for anthemic indie rock with new band Criteria. The Omaha quartet's sophomore effort, *When We Break*, came out last summer, and its got that corn-fed Saddle Creek smell all over it. Openers Limbeck are an Old 97's-style alt.country outfit

from the O.C. whose most recent release, *Let Me Come Home* (Doghouse Records) screams California dreamin'. Kicking things off is local quartet Belhome, throwing out Americana from their debut *A View of the Woods*.

— Melanie Haupt

The Old-Timerz, Cry Blood Apache

THE PARLOR, WEDNESDAY 1

In these unsavory times of exposed nipples and utter dreck like “My Humps” it's nice to know the Old-Timerz are around. They're polite, wear suspenders, and will chase you off their damn lawn back to a kinder, simpler time: when rock & roll was three chords and you could sing a wholesome song about hamburgers. Yes, these fellers had to walk to school barefoot in the snow and they liked it! Cry Blood Apache electrifies with some sexy synth declarations. Quaff an Ensure before you head out.

— Audra Schroeder



The Old-Timerz

Attack Formation vs. Nervous Exits

BEERLAND, THURSDAY 2

What happens when Austin's most elaborately schizophrenic punk rockers collide with gritty garage rock? The Attack Formation and its many incarnations pit noise against the Nervous Exits' sticky rhythms. Beerland's “vs.” nights are destined for Austin lore, and as these two trade verses, flashbacks form for future fun. The night starts out with the screamy good time of Tuxedo Killers and Oh, Beast! Surely, aspirin will be a necessity, but who needs relief when there's so much indulgence?

— Darcie Stevens

IN-STORES

Saturday: **Zom Zoms**, End of an Ear, 6pm; **J Church**, **Army of Jesus**, **Storm the Tower**, Sound on Sound, 6pm; **Condition of Sale**, **Mender**, Snake Eyes Vinyl, 6pm

Sunday: **Los Hispanos UK**, **Elvis on Speed**, **00 Spies**, Snake Eyes Vinyl, 5pm

Monday: **Cassette**, **Cilantro**, **Saw Wheel**, **Idle Kids**, **the Stones We Throw**, Snake Eyes Vinyl, 6pm

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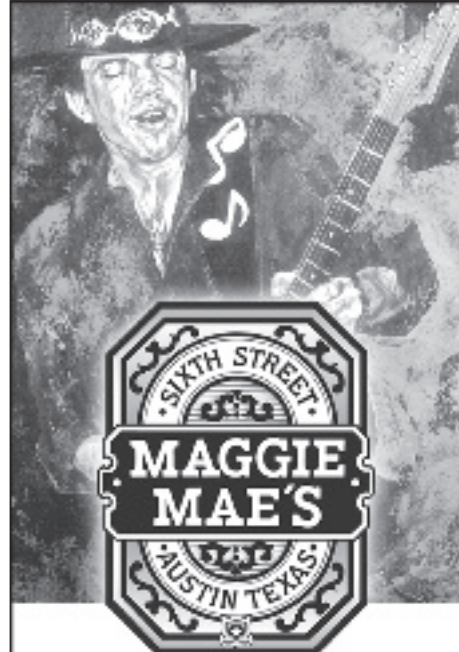
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SHOW 8:00PM

THIRD DAY
WHEREVER YOU ARE TOUR
WITH THE DAVID CROWDER BAND
MARCH 26 DOORS 7:00PM
SHOW 8:00PM

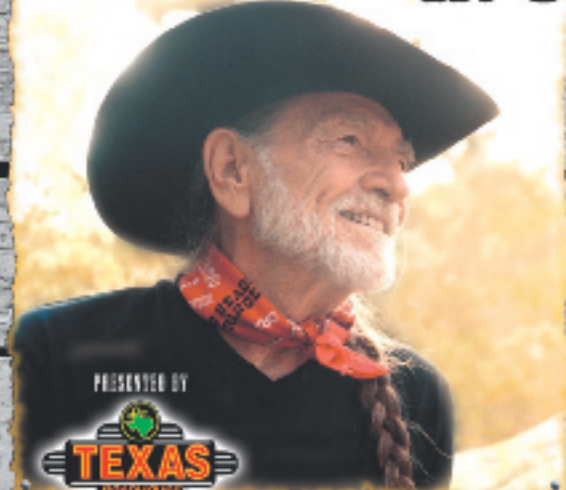
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MARCH
17

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29
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 11:15PM

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 6:30 HAPPY HOUR
BEAR AND THE ESSENTIALS
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BARFIELD
 11PM

WED. FEB. 1
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FRIDAY JAN. 27
 10PM
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THURS. FEB. 2
 HAPPY HOUR
KENNETH BRIAN
 10PM

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DOYLE BRAMHALL
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SAT. FEB. 4
 MATINEE 3-7PM
KENNETH BRIAN
SETH WALKER
 10PM

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THE LeRoi Brothers
JESSE DAYTON
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DRAKKAR SAUNA
TOM HEINL
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 MATINEE 3-7PM
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 7:30pm guest star ★ **JIM BOGGIN**
 10pm guest star ★ **GRIFFIN HOUSE**

Fri ★ Jan 27 special guest **REX MOROUX**
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Sat ★ Jan 28
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MARSHALL
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OPEN STAGE
 hosted by **ABI TAPIA**

Tue ★ Jan 31 FREE!
GRAHAM WEBBER
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Wed ★ Feb 1, 15 & 22 5:30 - 6:30pm
PIANO HOUR with **MICHAEL FRACASSO**

Wed ★ Feb 1 8:30pm
the GOURDS
HEAVY ORNAMENTALS
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Thur ★ Feb 2 GUITAR GURU on FAVORED NATION'S
ADRIAN LEGG 8:30pm

Fri ★ Feb 3 live at the cactus!
DAVE ALVIN

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Tue ★ Feb 7 from HOTHOUSE FLOWERS
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Wed & Thur ★ Feb 8 & 9 in concert at the cactus!
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 wed @ 8pm thur @ 7 & 9:30pm
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Fri ★ Feb 10
MARY GAUTHIER

Sat ★ Feb 11 **DARRELL SCOTT, DANNY O'KEEFE, JANE SIBERRY**

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★ DAVID ROUSE	2/25 ★ TERRI HENDRIX
2/16 ★ PLUM' TUCKER	3/4 ★ JIMMY LAFAVE

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Gimme Fiction
- 7) **ROBERT EARL KEEN**
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SATURDAY, JANUARY 28	THE BREW	9:30PM
MONDAY, JANUARY 30	JAMES GOSSETT UNDER THE STARS	9:30PM
TUESDAY, JANUARY 31	SETH WALKER	9:30PM NO COVER
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1	LATIN WEDNESDAY THE BREW	9:30PM
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WED-FRI 5-9PM
\$2 DOMESTICS & \$3 IMPORTS

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80s night

WEDNESDAY \$2 Domestic & \$4.50 Cols
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THURSDAY \$2 Tecate & \$3.50 Margarita's All Night
live rock en espanol ft. haydn vitera

FRIDAY 1/2 off Martini Special for Ladies All Night
m&m w/dj in/verse & dj casanova

SATURDAY Call Specials All Night
uptown saturdays w/cut creator

115 SAN JACINTO | 472-4115 | www.club115.com

club listings

Thu 26

311 CLUB 3 Piece Special, Joe Valentine & Lynn (8:30)
ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Lucky Tomblin Band (3:30)
ABIA: HILL COUNTRY BAR Allison Thrash (3:30)
ABIA: LEFTY'S BAR ON SIXTH Shelley King (12:30)
ALAMO DRAFFHOUSE SOUTH *The Psychobilly Sickness* w/ Flametrick Subs (10:00)
ALICE'S RESTAURANT Flying \$ Bunkhouse Band, Mary Welch y los Curanderos
ALLEY 416 Retro Rewind
ANTONE'S Joy Lynn White, Soulhat
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Greg Klyma
AUNT TILLY'S ISLAND CAFE & BAR Open Mic w/ Rusty Wier (9:30)
AUSTIN CONVENTION CENTER Austin Toros w/ the Spazmatics (7:30)
AUSTIN JAVA CAFE & BAR Poetry Karaoke Open Mic (8:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Joe Gee & the Gee-Men (10:00)
BACK ROOM Adrian & the Sickness, Level C, Oklahomos, Devola
BARCELONA DJ Tats
BASS CONCERT HALL Austin Symphony Orchestra Young People's Concerts (10:00 am, 11:30 am)
BECK'S ON CONGRESS Amanda Cunningham (8:00)
BEERLAND KAOS Benefit w/ Human Being Lawnmower, Elvis on Speed, Lions, Honky
BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)
BOAT HOUSE GRILL Open Mic w/ Sidney
BROKEN SPOKE Chaparral w/ Jeff Hughes
BROWN BAR mr.ripley
CACTUS CAFE Duncan Sheik (7:30, 10:00)
CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke
THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Sparrow House, Peter & the Wolf, Weissse Geist, Clapper Claw, Black Molly (6:00)
CEDAR STREET Gaila Trickey (6:00), Sauce (9:30)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Robert Socia Band
CLUB ONE 15 Rock en Español w/ Haydn Vitera (9:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Kenneth Brian (6:30), the Transgressors, Bloody Tears, Shandon Sahm (9:00)
COOL RIVER CAFE Kalico Kings (9:00)
COPA BAR & GRILL Salsa Lessons, Tango Night w/ the Brew (8:30)
COTTON CLUB Eric Neznik (8:30)
DARWIN'S PUB J.T. Coldfire
THE DETOUR Open Mic w/ David John, Big Steve, Easy Dave (8:30)
DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)
EGO'S Eve Monsees, Chadd Thomas & the Crazy Kings, Duncan Walters (9:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM New Orleans Jazz and of Austin, Brannen Temple Quartet (6:00)
ELYSIUM King N Things Benefit w/ Adrian & the Sickness
EMO'S The Unbearables, Pompeii, Lemurs, Clap!Clap!
EVANGELINE CAFE Craig Toungeate (7:00)
FADÓ DJ Gerry (10:00)
FLAMINGO CANTINA Evildoers, Paperwork, the Four
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Stayton Bonner, Mark Juncers, Erin Condo (8:00)
THE FOUNDATION Coy West
FOX & HOUND Danny Britt (6:00)
FREDA'S SEAFOOD GRILLE Jazzopolz (7:00)
GIDDY UPS Will Sexton, Open Mic w/ Ted & Roy (4:00)
GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL Kris Farrow (7:30), Nolitey (9:00)
GUERO'S TACO BAR Johnny Gimble (6:30)
HANOVER'S Karaoke
HEADHUNTERS Something Called Nothing, Halo Rings Her Head, Suns of Sultan, Hard Knocks & the Heads
HOLE IN THE WALL Alice Spencer & Her Monkey Butlers, Leche de Hombre, Crawling With Kings, Youngmond Grand (8:00)
JC'S STEAKHOUSE Adam Donmoyer
JOVITA'S Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)
LA PALAPA Larry Lange's Lonely Knights (8:00)
LUCKY LOUNGE Ian McLagan & the Bump Band (6:00), Anagen (10:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Cruiserweight
MAMBO KINGS CLUB Recon Thursday w/ Loki, Secret Agent, Durhdy, Jungle Jim, B-1, DJ Mattis
MOMOS Wamo & Sick, Ginger Leigh, Ivison, Bletzung (8:00)
MOTHER'S CAFE Doc Grauzer (6:00)
NAT'S PUB Open Mic w/ Big Jim
NORTH BY NORTHWEST Stephen Pile & Sara Shansky (6:30)
NUNO'S ON SIXTH The Mighty Org, Pride & Joy (8:00)
THE OFFICE LOUNGE Karaoke w/ Jamie
OSLO The Bumps (9:00), Jeff Strange (11:00)
PLUSH Get Broke! w/ Merrick Brown
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Burnett Jones
THE PUB Karaoke
RED FEZ Nuthin' New All-Stars (9:00)
RED'S SCOOT INN The Nortons (8:30)
REDRUM Echo Squad, Grimy Styles, Sunglasses & Mushrooms, the Rastas (8:00)

Acts are chronologically listed. Schedules are subject to change, so please call clubs to confirm lineup. Times are given where known and are PM unless otherwise noted.

LISTINGS ARE FREE AND ARE PRINTED ON A SPACE-AVAILABLE BASIS.

HELLO, CLUBS AND BANDS: Club listings deadline is Monday, 9am, for that week's issue, published on Thursday. Send venue name, address, phone number, acts, and times to: Club Listings, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765; fax 458-6910; phone 454-5766 x159; or e-mail clubs@austinchronicle.com.

REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Marc Devine, Donna Hightower, Denia Ridley, Marc Devine Trio (6:00), Donna Hightower, Denia Ridley, Marc Devine Trio (9:00)
RENAISSANCE HOTEL Rich Demarco (6:00)
RHINOS & JOCKS Prentice James
RILEY'S TAVERN Karaoke
ROADHOUSE Open Jam w/ Mojo (8:00)
ROMEO'S Jacinta (6:30)
ROOM 710 Stun Gun, Kissingner, the Witnesses
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Cotton Inks
RUTA MAYA Guy Forsyth, Sara Hickman (6:00)
SAXON PUB Tracy Conover, George Devore (8:00)
SHENANIGANS Billy D
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Rat Ranch (9:30)
SHOAL CREEK SALOON Love County (9:00)
SKY LOUNGE Retro Thursdays w/ DJ Def M
STUBB'S BAR-B-Q DJ Mel, Hard-Fi
TAMBALEO DJ Holland (10:00)
TEXAS BAR & GRILL Open Mic w/ Henry Craft
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Whit Smith's Hot Jazz Caravan (8:00)
TRIPLE CROWN Cody Richardson & Molly Hayes, Blackwater Gospel, Rebecca Creek
TROPHY'S Archibalds, Darla, Go Nova, Teddy Pentagrams
THE VELVET SPADE Topaz (10:00)
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE The Walking Contradictions
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH The Hudsons (6:00)
WATERLOO RECORDS Brandi Carlile (5:00)
WHISKY BAR Cue, Ian Orth, Ben Craven
Z'TEJAS Thomas Hughes & Mike Malone (6:00)

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THUR, JAN. 26

OKLAHOMOS

LEVEL C

ADRIAN & THE SICKNESS

\$2 ICEHOUSE PINTS
 \$5.50 ICEHOUSE PITCHERS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27

K-RINO

YOUNG BLEED

MONEY WATERS

BASSWOOD LANE
SMACK & CRASH FROM DIRTY WORMZ
75¢ well drinks 8-10:30p

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28

POWDERBURN LOKEY

DESDEMONA DOWN STARES
\$1 wells, \$1 drafts 8-10:30p

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29
J DEAN PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS HIP HOP SUNDAY
LEGS CONTEST & MIXER
MON, 1/30: \$1.75 HIGH LIFE, \$5.50 ICEHOUSE PITCHERS
TUE, 1/31: POOL TOURNAMENT
\$1.75 BUD/BUD LT, \$5.50 COORS PITCHERS

WED, 2/1: \$1.75 LONE STAR, \$5.50 ZIEGENBOCK PITCHERS
BABYMAN, SONS OF KORAH
NEW BAND NIGHT HOSTED BY CAPT. PHLEABAG
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FEB. 2
RIGOR MORTIS
HAMMERWHORE HIT BY A CAR

FRIDAY, FEB. 3

HOSTED BY BAYU BLAKES

DEVIN THE DUDE

SMACKOLA, DJ CRASH OF THE DIRTY WORMZ
3rd DEGREE DOK HOLIDAY
2/4: MEETFIST, NUMERIC PLAGUE, HAVOC DOSE, DEMONIO, KILLING IN APATHY

2/6: DAG PRESENTS (all ages)
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TRIVIAM
DEVIL DRIVER ZAO
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THURSDAY, JAN 26, 6PM

HAPPY HOUR WITH THE 'LEGENDARY' IAN McLAGAN & THE BUMP BAND

LATER: ANAGEN

10PM

FRIDAY, JAN 27, 8PM

SATURDAY, JAN 28, 8PM

SUNDAY, JAN 29, 10PM

MONDAY, JAN 30, 10PM

TUESDAY, JAN 31, 11PM

WEDNESDAY, FEB 1, 9PM

THURSDAY, FEB 2, 6PM

HAPPY HOUR WITH THE 'LEGENDARY' IAN McLAGAN & THE BUMP BAND

LATER: ANAGEN

10PM

209A West 5th St. 479-7700

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roadshows

JANUARY

THU 26
Duncan Sheik, Cactus Cafe
Hard-Fi, Stubb's Bar-B-Q
Brandi Carlile, Waterloo Records
FRI 27
Young Bleed, K-Rino, Back Room
Brandi Carlile, Cactus Cafe
Drakkar Sauna, Tom Heint, Continental Club
Limitpoint, Flamingo Cantina
The Handsomes, Maggie Mae's
Stanley Jordan, One World Theatre
Spiraling, Red Eyed Fly
Zilla, S.O.T.E.G., Stubb's Bar-B-Q
SAT 28
Mike Marshall, **Chris Thile**, Cactus Cafe

Two Tons of Steel, Cheatham Street Warehouse
Greyskul, **Barfly**, **Coley Cole**, **Dim Mak**, Emo's
Black Star Brigade, Headhunters
Chuck Berry, Paramount Theatre
Hairy Apes BMX, the Ills, the Parish
Voluntary Mother Earth, Trophy's
SUN 29
Scarface, Antone's
Limbeck, **Criteria**, Emo's
Abbey Wolf, **Omaur Bliss**, Room 710
MON 30
Kudzu Karnival, Antone's
TUE 31
Tomorrow's Too Late, Emo's

FEBRUARY

WED 1
Celia Sheklett, Cafe Mundi
George Winston, One World Theatre
Margot & the Nuclear So & So's, Stubb's Bar-B-Q
THU 2
Ian Moore, Antone's
Adrian Legg, Cactus Cafe
The Living Blue, Emo's
Sex Pistols Experience, Momos
George Winston, One World Theatre
Ozomatli, Paramount Theatre
Oliver Future, Stubb's Bar-B-Q

See austinchronicle.com for complete listings.

JANUARY 27, 2006 | THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE | 93

Detour

SPORTS BAR & GRILL

THURSDAY OPEN MIC NIGHT 8pm
Hosted by: **The Wildcards • Pool Tournament**

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Fri 27

219 WEST DJ Trace
311 CLUB Gilson Viator, Joe Valentine & Lynn (8:30)
ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Lisa Richards (3:30)
ABIA: HILL COUNTRY BAR Will Sexton (3:30)
ALE HOUSE AT OLDE PECAN ST. CAFE Saint Street Brawlers, New Disaster, Exit the Sun (8:30)
ALICE'S RESTAURANT Bob Rose, Matus, Ponty Bone
ANGEL'S ICEHOUSE Texas Soul (8:30)
ANTONE'S Truth for Leo, Satellite Band, Damesviolet (9:00)
ARTURO'S UNDERGROUND CAFE gfire (7:00)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Danny Britt & Red Dog
AUSTIN JAVA CAFE & BAR Acoustic Happy Hour (6:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Doak Short
BABY ACAPULCO'S 290 Gustavo Rodriguez
BACK ROOM Dirty Wormz, Smackola, Basswood Lane, K-Rino, Young Bleed
BASS CONCERT HALL Austin Symphony Orchestra Young People's Concerts (10:00 am, 11:30 am)
BECK'S ON CONGRESS Idgy Vaughn (8:00)
BEERLAND Boxspring Hogs, Shake Your Ass Records Revue w/ Black Joe Lewis & the Cool Breeze, Possessed By Paul James, This Damn Town, Chili Cold Blood (7:00)
BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)
BOAT HOUSE GRILL The Sevilles
BOUT TIME DJ Kim Hicks
BROKEN SPOKE Gary P. Nunn
BROWN BAR DJ Gray, Late Night w/ mr.ripley (9:00)
BUSTER'S BBQ Paul Cox (6:30)
CACTUS CAFE Rex Moroux, Brandi Carlile (9:00)
CAFE CAFFEINE Southpaw Jones (9:00)
CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke
THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Blue Diamond Shine, Greatest American Heroes
CEDAR STREET Shawn Phillips (6:00), Metalshop (9:30)
CENTRAL MARKET CAFE Albert & Gage (6:30)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Texas Renegade
CLUB ONE 15 Blend Fridays w/ DJ Inverse, DJ Casanova
CONTINENTAL CLUB The Blues Specialists (6:30), Tom Heini, Drakkar Sauna, the Meat Purveyors (10:00)
COOL RIVER CAFE Bret Boyer, Lipservice (6:45)
COPA BAR & GRILL Salsa Lessons, Grupo Soncache (9:00)
CYPRESS CREEK CAFE White Shoes (8:00)

DAN MCKLUSKY'S Bobby Doyle (7:00)
THE DIRTY DOG The Nematoads, Bent Eye Bolt, 3 Kisses, Dorkstar
DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters
THE DRISKILL Kirk Hale, Suzi Stern, George Oldziey (6:00)
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kat Edmonson (7:00)
EGO'S Macon Gregson, Reid Wilson & His So-Called Friends, Austin Collins (9:00)
EL SOL Y LA LUNA Oliver Rajamani (7:30)
ELEMENT DJ 2DQ (10:00)
EMO'S A Hawk & a Hacksaw, the Octopus Project, Explosions in the Sky
EVANGELINE CAFE Charles Thibodeaux & the Cajun Bayou Band (10:00)
FADÓ The Fabtones
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (Not So) Straight-Ahead Jazz for the 21st Century w/ Central Time (8:00)
FLAMINGO CANTINA Fly by Fire, Smile and Nod, the Midgetmen, Limitpoint, Ruins of Broadway (8:30)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Sick & Special Guests (9:00)
FREDA'S SEAFOOD GRILLE Jazzopoly (7:00)
GENUINE JOE COFFEEHOUSE Open Mic (7:30)
GIDDY UPS Gun Hands
GRUENE HALL Mike Nancy Band, Cory Morrow (8:00)
GUERO'S TACO BAR Circuit Breakers (6:30)
HANOVER'S Pride & Joy, Vallejo (7:30)
HEADHUNTERS Bent Gents, E.S.E., Turbo 350, Concombre Zombi
HILL'S CAFE Jim Stricklan CD Release
HOLE IN THE WALL Personals, Karaoke Apocalypse (10:00)
HOLE IN THE WALL ROUND ROCK Rocky Ivy Band (8:00)
JC'S STEAKHOUSE Adam Donmoyer
LA CABANA GRILL Blues Jam w/ Li'l Steph (8:00)
LA PALAPA Karaoke w/ Big Jim
LAGO MUSIC HALL Carson Alexander Band
LUCKY LOUNGE Primm (8:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Apse Affinity
MAGGIE MAE'S The Handsomes (10:00)
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Leeann Atherton (7:00)
MOMOS The Flying Club, Stephen Clarke, Patrice Pike
MOONRIVER Magnolia
MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB The Detentions
MR. NATURAL Will Dunlap (7:00)
NORTH BY NORTHWEST Natalie Zoe, Haydn Vitera (6:30)
NUNO'S ON SIXTH Randy Pavlok, Jeff Banks Band (8:00)
NUTTY BROWN CAFE Nutty Idol Karaoke

ONE WORLD THEATRE Stanley Jordan (7:00, 9:30)
OSLO DJ Mike Swing, DJ Gibby (10:00)
PAGGI HOUSE DJ Skot Kees (9:00)
THE PALLADIUM Vibe
PARDNERS K'Cee
THE PARLOR The Vain, Original Blackouts (9:00)
PLUSH Micasa Tu Casa w/ Tarek, MC Flint (10:00)
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Josh Grider
RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)
RAGGEDY ANNE'S Karaoke
RED EYED FLY Spiraling, Friends of Lizzy
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Mr. Fabulous (8:30)
RENAISSANCE HOTEL Rich Demarco (6:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Blake & Fallon
ROOM 710 Tia Carrera, One Mississippi, the Hackberries, Mandible
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Son, Gen & Skinny
RUTA MAYA Hidden Dwelling Open Drums, Existus, Govinda
SABA BLUE WATER CAFE DJ Rhythmic (10:00)
SAENGERHALL Cody Canada & Stoney LaRue
SAXON PUB The Regulars (6:30), Omar & the Howlers, Carolyn Wonderland (8:00)
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Rat Ranch (9:30)
SHOAL CREEK SALOON Passed Out Flyers, Will Sexton (8:00)
STUBB'S BAR-B-Q S.O.T.E.G., Zilla
TAMBALEO The Flying Club, DJ Mel & David Miranda (7:00)
TEXAS BAR & GRILL The Burners
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Hot Jazz Caravan, Elias Hanslanger
TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Susanna Sharp & Catavento (7:30)
TRIUMPH CAFE Stonecastle Family Band (7:00)
VUE Mumbojumbo w/ DJ Supafly, Nathan Castle, Mike C.
THE WATER TANK Karaoke w/ R.J. Graham Weber
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH Gentleman
WHISKY BAR Bombasta!, DJ POW, DJ Hannibal
WOODY'S SOUTH Bearded Clamdiggers, Honky (9:00)
Y BAR & GRILL Ted & Woe (7:00)

Sat 28

219 WEST DJ Trace
311 CLUB Dianne Donovan (7:00), Dewayne Davis, Joe Valentine & Lynn (8:30)
ALICE'S RESTAURANT Marshall Ford Swing Band, Jelly Jar, Bob Schneider
ANTONE'S Micky & the Motorcars, Reckless Kelly (9:00)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE The Studebakers



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This Weekend!

THURSDAY JANUARY 26TH
SOULHAT
WITH JOY LYNN WHITE

FRIDAY JANUARY 27TH
DAMESVIOLET THE SATELLITE BAND
WITH TRUTH FOR LEO

SATURDAY JANUARY 28TH
Reckless Kelly
WITH MICKY AND THE MOTORCARS

SUNDAY JANUARY 29TH
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MALFORD MILLIGAN • MIKE KELLER • & FRIENDS
LATER THIS TUESDAY *Truth For Leo* w/

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THURSDAY FEBRUARY 2ND
IAN MOORE
WITH TYRONE VAUGHAN

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 3RD
THE SCABS

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 4TH
BOB SCHNEIDER

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 25TH
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TICKETS ON SALE SATURDAY JAN. 20TH 11:00AM FROM 100 TO 1000

Coming up
2/9 - 5TH WALKER • BARRFIELD
2/10 - MARCIA BALL & EARL NEVILLE
2/11 - DIRTY WORMZ • MC OVERLORD
2/17 - FISHBAIL

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 26
TOPAZ / WIDESPREAD PANIC
 LISTENING PARTY 8-10PM

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27
TBA

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28
SOUNDBOARD MUSIC SHOWCASE
 (MULTIPLE BANDS)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29
DJ CHRIS
FROM FACTORY PEOPLE

MONDAY, JANUARY 30
MONDAYS WITH MALONE
FREE BBQ + SURPRISE ARTIST

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31
FIRE AND ICE BIRTHDAY BASH
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 Children's Play Area • Huge Oak-Shaded Patio

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Copa
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Buzios ROOM

Thursdays
THE BREW
 9:30pm

Fridays & Saturdays
SALSA DANCING
 Dj Fabian & Dj Alvaro
 9:30pm

01/26 - TANGO NIGHT
 01/27 - Grupo SONCACHE

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THURSDAY 1/26
KARAOKE 8PM
 WIN A TRIP FOR 2 TO LAS VEGAS!

FRIDAY 1/27
PRIDE AND JOY 7:30PM
VALLEJO 10PM

SATURDAY 1/28
BAG 100 9:30PM
21 DOWN 10:30PM
TRIP HAZARD 11:30PM

SUNDAY 1/29
FREE POKER
 5PM & 8PM

TUESDAY 1/31
PETE BENZ & FRIENDS 7:30PM

WEDNESDAY 2/1
DEACON WILLIE 7PM
MARTINIS AND MANICURES 5-8PM

POOL • DARTS
HORSE SHOES

DANNY'S BBQ
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Saturdays

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 Hip-Hop with DJ Mel & Jah Mighty

Tuesdays
 \$2 Pints & Free Pool

1st Wednesday
OPEN MIC
THROWDOWN
 8PM SIGN-IN
 9PM MUSIC
STARTS
 \$6 DOMESTIC PITCHERS 8-11

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THURS 1/26 - ROCK ———— 830 DOORS, 9 SHOW
THE FOUR PAPERWORK THE EVILDOERS

FRI 1/27 - PUNK/ROCK ———— 830 DOORS, 9 SHOW
RUINS OF BROADWAY LIMITPOINT MIDGETMEN SMILE AND NOD (CD RELEASE) FLY BY FIRE

SAT 1/28 - ROCK ———— 830 DOORS, 9 SHOW
THE CHAPTERS CRASH GALLERY, THE MERCERS PROM NITE, SHORTFILM PLUS DJ SEXK MACHINE

TUES 1/31 - VARIETY/GAMES ———— 830 DOORS, 9 SHOW
"THE PRIZE IS TIGHT" HOSTED BY MATT BEARDEN

WEDS 2/01 - TO BE ANNOUNCED ———— 830 DOORS, 9 SHOW
ERICK SANGER'S B-DAY BASH DEVIL IN THE CHOIR & MORE

THURS 2/02 HYPNOSIS ———— 830 DOORS, SHOW 9:00
BROWNOUT & AFROFREQUE

02/03 - hot 8 brass band
 02/04 - bob marley bday celebration - shantytown underground
 02/08 - anthony b, soul majestic, catch a fire
 02/09 - john jorgenson gypsy jazz band
 02/10 - pendel murphy and the slambang circus of dreams, the burne sisters, the mad muggles
 02/11 - melissa ferrick, rani arbo, children of the revolution, laura cortese
 02/12 - tillers folly, digging roots
 02/14 - the italo original trio leith portez,loyd ricketts, rannia davis
 02/16 - singleframe, belaire, for those who know
 02/17 - maneja beto
 02/18 - grimy styles, exodus
 02/24 - japanther

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club listings << FROM SATURDAY



AUSTIN JAVA CAFE & BAR Christina Roberts (8:00)
B.B. ROVERS Karen Mal
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Joe Richardson
BACK ROOM Desdemona, Powderburn
BARCELONA DJ Berlin
BECK'S ON CONGRESS Slim Richey's Kat's Meow (8:00)
BEERLAND Titty Babies, Near Miss, the Winks, the Ends
BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)
BOAT HOUSE GRILL Roy Heinrich
'BOUT TIME DJ Kim Hicks (9:00)
BROKEN SPOKE Geezinslaw Bros. w/ Sam and Son
BROWN BAR m.ripley (10:00)
CACTUS CAFE Chris Thile, Mike Marshall
CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke
THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Roger Miller Hoot w/ Roger Wallace, Teri Joyce, Susanna Van Tassel, Ted Roddy, Karen Poston, Sunny Sweeney, Bear McCreadie, Jason Arnold, the Hackles (7:00)
CEDAR STREET L.C. Rocks (9:30)
CENTRAL MARKET CAFE Pop Stars: Dads Who Rock (6:30)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Two Tons of Steel
CLUB ONE 15 Uptown Saturday w/ Cut Creator (9:30)
COFFEENUT BOOKSHOP Idgy Vaughn (6:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Whit Smith's Hot Jazz Caravan (3:00), Toni Price, the LeRoi Brothers (10:30)
COOL RIVER CAFE Kent Mayhew, Kalico Kings (6:45)
COPA BAR & GRILL Salsa Lessons, DJ Alvaro (8:30)
COTTON CLUB Ricky Calmbach (9:00)
DAN MCKLUSKY'S Mac Bynum (7:30)
THE DIRTY DOG Far Star, Audio Flava, Milhouse
DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws & Donn
THE DRISKILL Pat Griffin, Suzi Stern, George Oldzey (6:00)
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kat Edmonson (7:00)
EGO'S Rich Hopkins & the Luminarios, Dean Nelson & the Ramblers, San Saba County (8:30)
EL SOL Y LA LUNA Mary Welch y los Curanderos (7:30)
ELEMENT DJ 2DQ (10:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM Lara & Reyes (9:30)
ELYSIUM Haven w/ DJ Void, the Gothfather
EMO'S Dim Mak, Coley Cole, Barfly, Greyskul
END OF AN EAR Zom Zoms (6:00)
FADO Patrick Flemming Power Duo (10:00)
FLAMINGO CANTINA DJ Sexx Machine, Shortfilm, Prom Nite, the Mercers, Crash Gallery, the Chapters (8:30)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Megan Melara, Jade Day (9:00)
FREDA'S SEAFOOD GRILLE Joe Gee
GALAXY CAFE Paul White Quartet (7:00)
GENUINE JOE COFFEEHOUSE The Funsters
GIDDY UPS Bob Rose

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Jim Stringer
GRUENE HALL Seth Walker (1:00), Cory Morrow (9:00)
GÜERO'S TACO BAR The Nortons (6:30)
HANOVER'S Bag 100, 21 Down, Trip Hazard
HEADHUNTERS Head Panic, Black Star Brigade, Bricks ATX, Born to Lose
THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Josh Mercer's Singer/Songwriter Showcase
HILL'S CAFE Anthony Eby
HOLE IN THE WALL Drakkar Sauna, My Education, ST 37, Baby Robots (10:00)
JOVITA'S Jesse Ellis, the Texas Sapphires, the Weary Boys (6:00)
LA PALAPA Karaoke w/ Big Jim
LAGO MUSIC HALL Swamp Dogs
LUCKY LOUNGE Sounds Under Radio (8:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Famby, the Word Association, Oceanus, Clap!Clap!
MOMOS Ultrasonic, Johnny Goudie, Canvas
MOONRIVER The Niteshift
NORTH BY NORTHWEST Liz Morphis (6:30)
NUNO'S ON SIXTH Black Irish, Gustavo Rodriguez Band (8:00)
NUTTY BROWN CAFE Wes Hayden
PARAMOUNT THEATRE Chuck Berry (6:30)
THE PARISH The Ills, Dead Kenny G's, Hairy Apes BMX
THE PARLOR Manikin, The Cruel & Unusual, Manikin (9:00)
PLUSH Turntable Manners w/ DJ Tats, Dirty Harry
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Brooks Alan Brannon, McKay Brothers
POODLE DOG LOUNGE Chili Cold Blood
PROGRESS COFFEE Ink, Tacks, the Boy Disaster (9:00)
THE PUB Karaoke w/ Billy D.
RED EYED FLY Dreamt the End
RED FEZ DJ Kurv (10:30)
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Blue Mist (8:30)

RENAISSANCE HOTEL Rich Demarco (6:00)
RHINOS & JOCKS 4:19
RILEY'S TAVERN Lonnie Key & the Texas Connection
ROCKIN' TOMATO Preserve the Sound vs. Consider the Source (9:00)
ROOM 710 When Dinosaurs Ruled the Earth, Lomita, the Arm, Peter Stopschinski & Graham Reynolds Score *Metropolis*
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Shorty Long
RUTA MAYA Fred Mitchum, Hail Stoners, Mike Milligan, Shelley King
SABA BLUE WATER CAFE DJ Sugar (10:00)
SAENGERHALLE Full Throttle
THE SALT LICK Byrd & Street (6:00)
SAXON PUB Adam Hood, Driver, Guy Forsyth
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Rat Ranch (9:30)
SHOOTING STARS COFFEE Obatallah (1:00)
SNAKE EYES VINYL Mender, Condition of Sale (6:00)
SOUND ON SOUND Storm the Tower, Army of Jesus, J Church (6:00)
STARDUST CLUB Jerry Sires Band (9:00)
STUBB'S BAR-B-Q Neil Young, Hoot w/ Militant Babies, Tammany Hall Machine, Fighting Bros. McCarthy, the Missing Tapes, the Golden Apples, Tia Carrera, King Tears, Gleeson, Mandible, Superego, Grand Champeen, the Hackberries, Milton Mapes
TAMBALEO DJ Kurupt, DJ Inverse (10:00)
TEXAS BAR & GRILL Digital JB
THREADGILL'S OLD NO. 1 Rockuy Ivy Band (7:30)
TRAVIS COUNTY EXPO CENTER Ice Bats w/ Grady (7:30)
TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Aunt Ruby's Sweet Jazz Babies (7:30)
TROPHY'S Darling New Neighbors, Hitchhike, Voluntary Mother Earth
THE VELVET SPADE Opposite Day, Woodbelly (10:00)
THE WATER TANK Karaoke w/ R.J.
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH Allison Thrash
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Lee Edwards
WHISKY BAR Los Impossibles, Prince Klassen
WOODY'S SOUTH Blood Burning, Dum Dum & the Smarties (9:00)

Sun 29

219 WEST DJ Trace
290 WEST BAR & GRILL Hurricane Stan Relief Benefit w/ Scott Dannemiller & the Church Band, Ruthie Foster (6:30)
ALICE'S RESTAURANT Carley Wolf, Grassy Knoll Boys, Kat's Meow
ANTONE'S Zeale 32, Dat Boy Mikee, Scarface
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Rod Moag & Jon Emery
AUSTIN JAVA CAFE & BAR Jazz Brunch (11:00 am)
B.B. ROVERS Jollyville City Limits Open Mic w/ Josef; Austin Songwriters Group Open Mic w/ Hollis Webb (7:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Irish Tune Session (8:00)

APPEARING AT:
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 8pm -- Troy Dillinger
 9pm - Youngmond Grand
 10pm - 2am -- [adult swim] live broadcast

[austin swim].org

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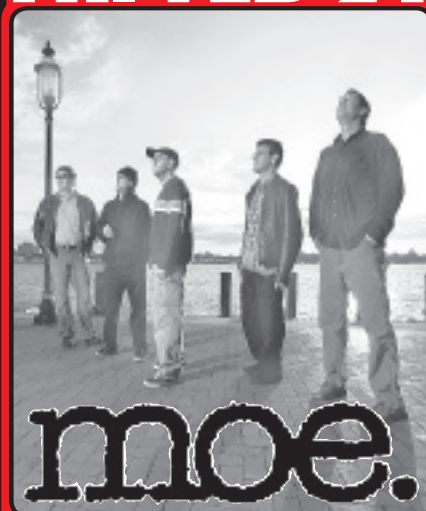
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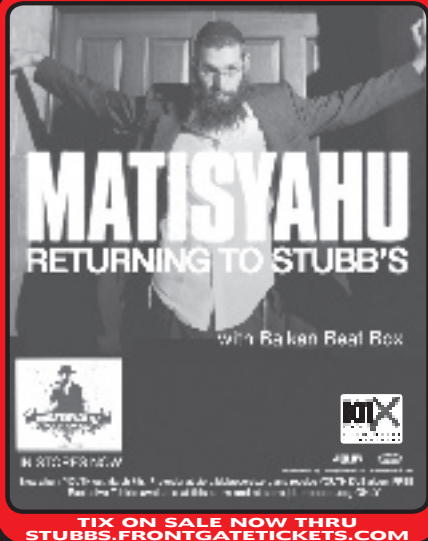


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THU MAR 23 SUN MAR 26 WED MAR 29



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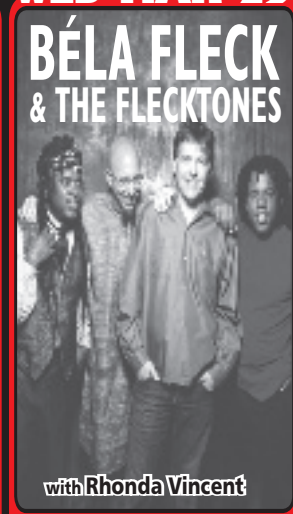
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THU JAN 26



HARD-FI

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FRI JAN 27



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OF THE STRING CHEESE INCIDENT
WITH **S.O.T.E.G.**
SAT JAN 28



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Thurs. Jan. 26



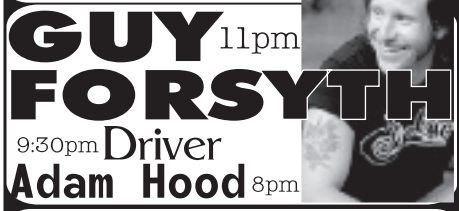
8pm **Tracy Conover**
GEORGE DEVORE
11pm
HHr. The Chevelles 6pm; No Cover

Fri. Jan. 27



11pm **Carolyn Wonderland**
8pm **Omar & The Howlers**
HHr. The Regulars 6pm; No Cover

Sat. Jan. 28



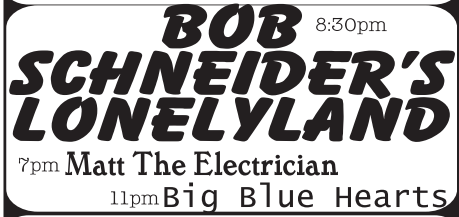
11pm **GUY FORSYTH**
9:30pm **Driver**
Adam Hood 8pm

Sun. Jan. 29



The Resentments 7pm
10:30pm **Walter Tragert** **Last Train Home** 12am
4pm **Singing Again: Marci Lynne**
Adv. Tickets on Sale Now!
Check out our website for more info.

Mon. Jan. 30



8:30pm **BOB SCHNEIDER'S LONELYLAND**
7pm **Matt The Electrician**
11pm **Big Blue Hearts**

Tues. Jan. 31



9pm **Asylum Street Spankers** w/ **Guy Forsyth & Stanley Smith**
Will 11:30pm **Sexton** **Guy Forsyth** 8pm
HHr. **Denim** 6pm

Wed. Feb. 1



HHr. **Pauline Reese** 6pm
8pm **MONTE MONTGOMERY**
*** EVERY WEDNESDAY ***
10:30pm **BARNHILL SUB COMMITTEE** 12am

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2/3 - Miss Lavelle White & WC Clark
2/14 - Ruthie Foster 2/17 - Vallejo

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WAMMO & SICK 8
INVISION 11 BLETZUNG 12:30
FRIDAY JANUARY 27 / \$10

PATRICE PIKE 11:30
STEPHEN CLARKE 9:30
THE FLYING CLUB 8
SATURDAY JANUARY 28 / \$12

CANVAS 12

JOHNNY GOUDIE 10
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 NEW START TIME! 9PM-12MIDNITE!
WARREN HOOD
& THE HOODLUMS
ROBERT SOCIA 12
CHRIS BRECHT 8
MONDAY JANUARY 30
JOSEPH KING
 ACOUSTIC INDULGENCE WITH
LANKY 10 **FIVE DOLLAR FRIEND** 12
SARAH SHARP 8
NO COVER
TUESDAY JANUARY 31 / \$5
DREW SMITH 8
WILL EVANS 10
JAY THOMAS 12
WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 1 / \$5
THE GOOD-TIME SUPPER CLUB 9:30
 W/ BRIAN KEANE, COLIN BROOKS, ELDRIDGE GOINS, GORDY QUIST, ED JURDI & MORE
THE GINN SISTERS 8
LAST TRAIN HOME 12
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FRIDAY 1/27
 9:00-11:00PM
SETH WALKER
 7:00PM-9:00PM
JADE DAY
HARRY BODINE 5:30-8:30PM

SATURDAY 1/28
 10PM-MIDNIGHT
THE WEARY BOYS
 8PM-9:30PM \$8
THE TEXAS SAPPHIRES
JESSE ELLIS 8-7:30PM

SUNDAY 1/29
JERRY SIRES BAND 8PM-8PM

TUESDAY 1/31 NO COVER EVERY TUESDAY IN JAN.
THE GRASSY KNOLL BOYS
 8-10PM **ETHAN AZZARIAN** 8-7:30PM

WEDNESDAY 2/1 8-10PM
JANE BOND
 NO COVER! **JODY ADAIR** 8-7:30PM

COMING SOON:
 THE GOURDS CD RELEASE 2/3
 THE EGGMEN 2/4
 MARY WELCH Y LOS CURANDEROS 2/5
 GRASSY KNOLL BOYS 2/7
 TROY CAMPBELL CD RELEASE 2/8
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club listings << FROM SUNDAY

BABY ACAPULCO'S ABORETUM
 Mary Welch y los Curanderos (5:00)
BECK'S ON CONGRESS Gina Dvorak
BEERLAND Lost in South Austin, 00Spies, Los Hispanos UK, Venditos
BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)
'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ Margaret Miller
CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke
THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke
CEDAR STREET Les & the Funk Mob (9:30)
CENTRAL MARKET CAFE Cienfuegos (6:30)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Rick Turcotte & Joanna Howerton CD Release
CLYDE'S BAR AND GRILL Open Mic w/ T. R. Anthony (7:00)
COFFENUT BOOKSHOP Los Klezmeros (1:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Heybale! w/ Redd Volkaert & Earl Poole Ball (11:00)
COTTON CLUB Can't Hardly Playboyz (5:00)
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)
ELYSIUM Regression: Retro Eighties w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice
EMO'S The Always Already, Belhome, Criteria, Limbeck
FADO Emerald Exiles
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Anthony De Los Santos (8:00)
FRIENDS Open Mic Blues Jam w/ Walter Higgs (9:00)
G CUE BILLIARDS K'Cee (7:30)
GREEN PASTURES Jacques Vilmain (11:00 am)
GUERO'S TACO BAR Los Jazz Vatos (3:00)
HEADHUNTERS Muchos Backflips!, An End to October, Hit by a Car, Blackholicus
HOLE IN THE WALL Rebecca's Ragtime Revue, Black Joe Lewis & the Cool Breeze, Johnny Gobbs, Human Being Lawnmower (9:00)
INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODDFELLOWS HALL Elaine Filion Benefit w/ Purlly Gates, Plucking Idiots, Slim Ritchie & Kat's Meow, Therapy Sisters (1:00)
JO'S HOT COFFEE Sinner's Brunch: Tina Rose & the Jo's House Band (12:30)
JOVITA'S Jerry Sires Band (6:00)
LUCKY LOUNGE Everyday People (10:00)
MANUEL'S Alex Coke (11:30 am)
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS PJ Liles Hippie Church, Imperial Golden Crown Harmonizers (10:30 am)
MOMOS Chris Brecht, Warren Hood & the Hoodlums, Robert Socia
MOONRIVER Karaoke (9:30)
MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB Irish Brunch w/ the Tea Merchants (noon)
MUNCHIES The XProphets (noon)
NUOVO LEON Mariachi Relampago (1:00)
NUNO'S ON SIXTH Open Mic w/ Jimi Lee (9:00)
NUTTY BROWN CAFE Java Jazz
THE OFFICE LOUNGE Karaoke w/ Mrs. K
PAGGI HOUSE Skot Kees (11:00 am)
PLUSH Car Stereo Wars

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Hilltop Kitchen Fire Benefit w/ Jimmy Lee Jones, the Troubadillos, Pauline Reese, Kevin Fowler
POODLE DOG LOUNGE Sunny Sweeney (8:30)
RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)
RAIN Hedda Layne (5:30)
RED FEZ DJ Kurupt
RILEY'S TAVERN Open Mic
ROADHOUSE Open Mic w/ Josh
ROOM 710 Hip-Hop & Good Times w/ Zeale 32, Omaur Bliss, Abbey Wolf
RUTA MAYA Austin Jazz Workshop CD Release
SAXON PUB The Resentments, Walter Tragert, Jay Thomas (7:00)
SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Billy D
SNAKE EYES VINYL Elvis on Speed, 00Spies, Los Hispanos UK (6:00)
STUBB'S BAR-B-Q Writers' League of Texas Party w/ the Chevelles
TAMBALEO Adam Raven & DJ Gobot
THE CROSSINGS Sunday Singing at Seven w/ Walt & Tina Wilkins (7:00)
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Tres, Gospel Brunch (11:00 am)
THUNDERDOME Lonestar Rollergirls w/ Maneja Beto (6:00)
TRIPLE CROWN Open Mic w/ Molly Hayes (9:00)
THE WATER TANK Open Mic w/ Patrick
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE ROUND Rock Brunch w/ Brian Mullin
WHISKY BAR DJ Berlin, DJ Clusaki
WOODY'S SOUTH Southside Sunday Brunch w/ the Bearded Clamdiggers (11:00 am)

HEADHUNTERS Dark Element
THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Open Mic Poetry & Reading (7:00)
JACK'S BACKYARD Karaoke w/ Stars Across Texas (9:00)
LONGBRANCH INN Singer-Songwriter Night
LUCKY LOUNGE 54 Seconds (10:00)
MOMOS Sarah Sharp, Joseph King
MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS John Wilson, Je Renee, Carl Koonce
NASTY'S Blow Pop w/ DJ Mel, Jahmighty
NUNO'S ON SIXTH Butt Rockin' Blue Monday w/ the Texcellorators, Li'l Steph (9:00)
PARDNERS Karaoke
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Blues Night w/ Price Porter
POODLE DOG LOUNGE The Stepsiders (9:30)
RED FEZ Motown w/ DJ Inverse, DJ Tats
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Marc Devine (6:00)
RUTA MAYA Carolyn Wonderland (8:30)
SAXON PUB Matt the Electrician, Bob Schneider, Big Blue Hearts (8:30)
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Chris Boss (9:30)
SNAKE EYES VINYL The Stones We Throw, Idle Kids, Saw Wheel, Cilantro, Cassette (6:00)
SPEAKEASY James Gossett (9:30)
TAMBALEO Open Mic, Brad Brobinsky, Calvin Russell & Friends (8:00)
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Elizabeth McQueen & Jason Roberts
TROPHY'S The Meshbanes
THE WATER TANK Acoustic Jam Open Mic w/ Tony Fant
WHISKY BAR DJ Tako, DJ Ish

Mon 30

ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Maggie Walters (3:30)
ANTONE'S Monte Montgomery w/ Kudzu Karnival, the Blue Monday Band (7:00)
ARARAT Xenomaniacal (7:30)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Sarah Elizabeth Campbell & the Banned
BLIND PIG PUB Patrick Flemming (10:00)
'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ Margaret Miller
CACTUS CAFE Open Stage
CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke
THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke
CEDAR STREET Kevin Ahart (6:00), Jukebox Heroes (9:30)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Grant Ewing Band
CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO Rich Demarco (6:30)
CLUB ONE 15 Groove Attack w/ DJ Skorchia D. (9:30)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Paris '49 (6:30), Bear & the Essentials, Lucas Hudgins & the 1st Cousins (10:00)
DONN'S DEPOT Chris Gage
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Bobby Doyle (7:00)
EGO'S El Charro (11:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM Michael Mordecai's Jazz Jam (9:30)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Sick Science Project (8:00)
FRIENDS Eric Tessmer (7:00)
GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL Jon Emery & His Political Friends

Tue 31

219 WEST Crucial Prophet
311 CLUB 3 Piece Special (8:30)
ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Stephanie Fix (3:30)
ANTONE'S Double Trouble Tuesday w/ Chris Layton, Tommy Shannon, Malford Milligan & Friends, Tyrone Vaughan (11:00)
ARARAT Sergey (7:30)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Texas Olde Time Fiddlers Jam (6:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Open Mic (7:30)
BASTROP SENIOR CENTER The Kitchen Pickers (6:30)
BECK'S ON CONGRESS Chad Tracy w/ Jane Bond (8:00)
BEERLAND Bricks ATX
BROKEN SPOKE Debra Peters' Accordion Roundup
BROWN BAR DJ Gray (9:00)
CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke
THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Lee Simmons, Jerm Pollet & the Total Foxes (7:00)
CEDAR STREET Super Fantastic Duo w/ Seela Green (6:00), Trent Durham Band (9:30)
CHARLIE'S Margaret Wright
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Monte Montgomery "Plugged"
CLUB ONE 15 Reggae Night (9:30)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Doak Short (5:30), Toni Price (6:30), Barfield (11:00)

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THU., JAN. 26 **CHAPARRAL** W/ JEFF HUGHES
 FRI., JAN. 27 **GARY P. NUNN**
 SAT., JAN. 28 **GEEZINSLAW BROS.** W/ SAM & SON
 TUE., JAN. 31 **DEBRA PETERS & THE ACCORDION ROUNDUP** NO COVER
 WED., FEB. 1 **LUCKY TOMBLIN** NO COVER

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**CLAP! CLAP! • THE LEMURS
POMPEII • THE UNBEARABLES**

Friday, Jan 27
SOLID DIRT
SOLID DIRT • HAWK AND A HACKSAW

Saturday, Jan 28
GREYSKUL
(RHYMESAYERS, FEAT. ONRY OZZBOURN W. DJ WICKED)
BARFLY • COLEY COLE • DIM MAK
TICKETS AVAILABLE

Sunday, Jan 29
LIMBECK • CRITERIA (SADDLE CREEK)
BELHOME • THE ALWAYS ALREADY TICKETS AVAILABLE

Monday, Jan 30 **CLOSED**

Tuesday, Jan 31
GHETTO PRINCESS • SECULAR END
THE TOTAL FOXES • TOMORROW'S TOO LATE

Wednesday, Feb 1
101X PRESENTS **CORD**
HUNDRED YEAR STORM • VISITORS
9:30PM ONLY \$1

Thursday, Feb 2
HANDSOME CHARLIES LIVING BLUE
TAH-DAHS • DAYLIGHT TITANS

Friday, Feb 3
OUTSIDE
2MEX • LIFE REXALL • OLLIE OX
XOLOLANXINCO • QBIST • MERIDIAN
PRIME • PUPPETS (9PM) TICKETS AVAILABLE

INSIDE
ROCKLAND EAGLES • YUPPIE PRICKS
PINK SWORDS • THE ACTION IS

Saturday, Feb 4
PEARLS AND BRASS (DRAG CITY)
THE HIGH TENSION WIRES
(MEMBERS OF MARKED MEN, RIVERBOAT GAMBLERS,)
PUDDING • THE APE SHITS

Sunday, Feb 5
BRUJERIA
(RUMORED MEMBERS OF
CARCASS/NAPALM DEATH/NILE)
CEPHALIC CARNAGE (RELAPSE)
STEERS • TICKETS AVAILABLE

Mon-Tue, Feb 6-7 **CLOSED**

Wednesday, Feb 8
POOR POSTURE • WATCHING THE MOON
GHOST OF THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE

Thursday, Feb 9
EARLY SHOW DOORS 5, SHOW 5:30
ARMOR FOR SLEEP • BOYS NIGHT OUT
CHIODOS • ACTION REACTION • TICKETS AVAILABLE

LATE SHOW (OUTSIDE)
OF MONTREAL
DJ JESTER THE FILIPINO FIST
GRAND BUFFET • MGMT TICKETS AVAILABLE

LATE SHOW (INSIDE)
SIGNAL LOST • CAMP X RAY • ARMY OF JESUS
IRON AGE • MODERN NEEDS

Friday, Feb 10
GHOSTLAND OBSERVATORY
THE ARM • THE BLACKHEART SOCIETY
PLUS DJ ERIN

Saturday, Feb 11
THE SWORD
CD RELEASE PARTY!
EARLY MAN • PRIESTESS
BY THE END OF TONIGHT TICKETS AVAILABLE

Sunday, Feb 12
OCEANUS • EXIT THE KING
SPIRIT OF THE STAIRWAY • TRIUMPH OF GNOMES

Monday, Feb 13 **CLOSED**

Tuesday, Feb 14 - 9PM
SPEND VALENTINE'S DAY WITH
VOXTROT • CRY BLOOD APACHE
PEEL • CARROT • DJ JENNIFER (EAR CANDY)

Wednesday, Feb 15
THE HOLD STEADY
SWEARING AT MOTORISTS
PLASTIC CONSTELLATIONS TICKETS AVAILABLE

Thursday, Feb 16
AM SYNDICATE • TIA CARRERA
ASTRONAUTALIS • THIS WILL DESTROY YOU

Friday, Feb 17
**ZYKOS • THE BLACK
EVANGELICALS**
MICHAEL KINGCAID OF WHAT MADE MIL-
WAUKEE FAMOUS (WITH SPECIAL GUESTS)

Saturday, Feb 18
OUTSIDE
NADASURF
ROGUE WAVE • KING OF FRANCE
TICKETS AVAILABLE

INSIDE
JUCIFER • CARDINALE
BOWEL • SUPERHEAVYGOATASS

Sunday, Feb 19



NO USE FOR A NAME
SUICIDE MACHINES
I AM THE AVALANCHE • VERSUS THE WORLD
TICKETS AVAILABLE

Monday, Feb 20
SKELETON KEY
SHOW IS THE RAINBOW
BRING BACK THE GUNS
TICKETS AVAILABLE

Tuesday, Feb 21
MISSING TAPES • BEATINGS • AUX

Wednesday, Feb 22
BROTHERS & SISTERS
PETER & THE WOLF
TBA • TBA

Thursday, Feb 23
KRUMBUMS • DRASTIC ACTIONS
TBA • TBA

Friday, Feb 24
**POS
SIMS** (RHYMESAYERS)
DEEPS W/ STARVING MARTYRS
THE WORD ASSOCIATION
TICKETS AVAILABLE

Saturday, Feb 25
OUTSIDE 9PM
AUSTRALIAN CATTLE GODS
RECORDS PRESENTS
THE REDNECK MANIFESTO
ATTACK FORMATION
ANT MAN BEE • THE SNAKE TRAP
RED X RED M
INSIDE



SMOKING POPES
BAYSIDE
THE FALL COLLECTION
TICKETS AVAILABLE

THE PARISH ROOM
214 E. 6TH ST. UPSTAIRS AUSTIN TX A NON-SMOKING VENUE
info 512.478.6372 www.theparishroom.com

TIX @ WWW.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM
Waterloo Records End Of An Ear 512.389.0315

SAT 1/28/06TIX ONSALE NOW...DOORS 9PM

HAIRY APES BMX


THE DEAD KENNY GS
THE ILLS
TIX @ WWW.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM + WATERLOO RECORDS

2/4/06 ... 7" RELEASE PARTY.....DOORS 9:30PM

BELAIRE
7 INCH RELEASE PARTY
LOXSLY

2/10/06TIX ONSALE NOW...DOORS 8PM



SPLIT LIP
RAYFIELD
THE DAMNATIONS
TIX @ WWW.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM + WATERLOO RECORDS

2/15/06TIX ONSALE NOWDOORS 8PM

THE FRAY the fray
CARY BROTHERS
MAT KEARNEY
WWW.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM + WATERLOO

2/16/06 ..WWW.TINOCORP.COM..TIX ONSALE NOW

MEAT BEAT MANIFESTO
+TINO BREAKS in DUB


DALEK
DJ MICKY
OF SUB OSLO
TIX @ FRONTGATETICKETS.COM + WATERLOO REC + END of an EAR

2/19/06TIX ONALE NOWDOORS 7PM

SUPERGRASS
PILOTDRIFT
TIX @ WWW.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM + WATERLOO RECORDS

2/24/06DOORS 9PM

THE UNDERTOW ORCHESTRA
VIC CHESNUTT DAVID BAZAN
MARK EITZEL WILL JOHNSON
TIX @ FRONTGATETICKETS.COM + WATERLOO RECORDS

2/25/06DOORS 8PM

LESS THAN JAKE
A WILHELM SCREAM DAMONE
ROCK N ROLL SOLDIERS
TIX @ FRONTGATETICKETS.COM + WATERLOO RECORDS

3/7/06DOORS 8PM

BLACK REBEL
MOTORCYCLE CLUB
ELEFANT • THE MORNING AFTER GIRLS
TIX @ FRONTGATETICKETS.COM + WATERLOO RECORDS

3/11/06 MATT POND PA 4/7/06
TIX ONSALE YOUTH GROUP TIX ONSALE

LOW

• 2/28 THE WEDDING PRESENT* • 3/2 REGGIE AND THE FULL EFFECT* • 3/3 ARIEL PINK* • 3/4 ELECTRIC 6* • 3/7 MOTION CITY SOUNDTRAK (OUT)* / THE BLEED (IN)*
• 3/10 DROPKICK MURPHYS* • 3/11 MATES OF STATE / SOUND TEAM* • 3/13 TAKE ACTION TOUR: MATCHBOOK ROMANCE* • 3/29 ANTI-FLAG* • 3/31 GHOSTFACE KILLA*
• 4/6 SUBHUMANS* • 4/25 SUBTLE* • 4/29 GRIS GRIS* • 5/6 JOHN VANDERSLICE*

*TICKETS ARE SOLD ONLINE THROUGH www.emosaustin.com OR YOU CAN BUY THEM AT WATERLOO RECORDS

Triple Crown

San Marcos, TX (512) 396-2236
www.triplecrownlive.com

Th 26	Cody Richardson & Molly Hayes 6pm Rebecca Creek, Black Water Gospel 9pm
Fr 27	Bill Jerram 6pm The Damns, Fluffers Union 9pm
Sa 28	The Lemurs, Always Already, Pomeii 10pm
Su 29	Open Mic w/ Pat, Holly or Nate
Mo 30	Erickson 6pm Adam Hood 10pm
Tu 31	Bill Passalacqua 6pm Scotty & the Metaphysics 9pm
We 1	Patrick Harkins 6pm Echo's Orbit Room, Muchos Backflips! 9pm
Th 2	Johnny Gringo 6pm Liquid Cheese, Humble 9pm
Fr 3	Ginn Sisters 6pm The Spiders, The Hatchets, Enemy Of Mankind 9pm
Sa 4	Psyche Origami, Word Association 10pm



Let The Good Times Roll!

8106 Brodie Lane
282-2586

THURSDAY JAN 26 • 7PM
CRAIG TOUNGATE

FRIDAY JAN 27 • 10PM **\$5 Cover**

CHARLESTHIBODEAUX & THE BAYOU CAJUN BAND

TUESDAY JAN 31
BRENNEN LEIGH 6PM
GENE TAYLOR 8PM

WEDNESDAY FEB 1
COWBOY JOHNSON 6PM



THURSDAYS
Nuthin' New
ALL STARS

featuring

- ▶ DJ Manny
- ▶ DJ Mike Swing
- ▶ DJ Gibby

ROTATE WEEKS

thurs Nuthin' New All Stars 9:00-2:00

fri The Bumps 8:30-10:30
DJ Gibby 10:30-2:00

sat Stereovolt 8:30-10:30
DJ Kurv 10:30-2:00

sun DJ Kurupt 10:00-2:00

mon DJ Mark McCain "DJ In/Verse" with DJ Tats
motown and funk 10:00-2:00

tues TWIST UP DJ Manny 10:00-2:00

wed SATISFACTION DJ Shane 10:00-2:00

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LIVE MUSIC

THURSDAY JAN 26
Love County 9:00

FRIDAY JAN 27
PASSED OUT FLYERS 8:00
AND
WILL SEXTON 9:00

Now Serving Whiskey!

LATE NIGHT HAPPY HOUR 8:30PM TO 11PM
Smoking Room 18 and Up

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Wireless Internet
POOL TABLE

www.shoalcreeksaloon.com

calendar > COMMUNITY > ARTS > FILM > MUSIC

club listings << FROM TUESDAY

CYPRESS FALLS TAVERN Open Mic w/ Bonnie & Blythe (9:00)
THE DIRTY DOG Eric Hargett
DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Bobby Doyle (7:00)
EGO'S Sunny Sweeney, Perry Wing Band (9:00)
EL MERCADO'S MUSIC LOUNGE "Writers Who Rock" Songwriters Night w/ Christine Young, Melissa Mullins (7:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM Stanley Smith (4:00)
ELYSIUM Sappho's Isle w/ DJ Amerykah & DJ Doja
EMO'S Tomorrow's Too Late, Jerm Pollet & the Total Foxes, A Secular End, Ghetto Princess
EVANGELINE CAFE Brennen Leigh, Gene Taylor (6:00)
FADÖ Tea Merchants (8:00)
FIREHOUSE LOUNGE Deep Sessions w/ DJ Toddy B
FLAMINGO CANTINA The Prize Is Tight w/ Matt Bearden (8:30)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory (8:00)
FRIENDS Erin Jaimes & Her Bad Habits, Alan Haynes (7:30)
GIDDY UPS Ray Cashman, Gabby Brown
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Billy Dee (9:00)
GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL Stop the Truck
GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL Open Stage w/ Felix the Kid
HABANA CALLE 6 Trey Lanshe (8:00)
HANOVER'S Pete Benz & Friends (7:30)
HEADHUNTERS U.S.S.R., Brownstars
THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Singer-Songwriter Night w/ Josh (8:00)
HILL'S CAFE Leo Stokes
HOLE IN THE WALL Kacy Crowley, Darin Murphy (9:00)
IT'S ITALIAN "Frankly Singing" w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)

JOVITA'S Ethan Azarian, Grassy Knoll Boys (6:00)
LA PALAPA Avenue C
LUCKY LOUNGE Boombox w/ Carlos Sosa, John Pointer (11:00)
MANCHACA FIRE HALL KITCHEN Acoustic Round Table w/ K'Cee (6:00)
MOMOS Drew Smith, Will Evans, Jay Thomas
NUNO'S ON SIXTH Jeff Banks Band, Randy Pavlok (8:00)
THE OFFICE LOUNGE Karaoke w/ Billy D
OSLO Lucy's Wild w/ DJ Shane
PARDNERS Open Mic w/ the Michael Petty Band (7:30)
PLUSH Mentalnote
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Troubadillos
THE PUB Karaoke w/ Justin
RED FEZ Twist Up w/ DJ Manny (10:15)
RED'S SCOOT INN Li'l Steph & the Chromatics
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Denia Ridley w/ Marc Devine (6:30)
RHINOS & JOCKS ROUND ROCK Karaoke w/ Mr. K.
ROADHOUSE Karaoke w/ Dragon
ROCKIN' TOMATO Open Mic w/ Erika Maassen (8:00)
ROMEO'S Jacinta (6:30)
ROPER'S NIGHTCLUB Open Mic
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Tony Maserati & Skinny don
RUTA MAYA Poetry, Music Open Mic (6:00)
SAM'S TOWN POINT Open Mic w/ Dewey Lyon & 70 Thru Selma (9:00)
SARADORA'S COFFEEHOUSE AND EMPORIUM Jim Ivy's Jinxstreet Band (7:00)
SAXON PUB Guy Forsyth, Asylum Street Spankers, Will Sexton
SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Rae Rae
SPEAKEASY KKQ (9:30)
TAMBALEO The Kurl (10:00)
TAVERN ON THE GRUENE Songwriters Open Mic w/ Jerry Martin & Sam Sanchez (8:00)
TEXAS BAR & GRILL Karaoke w/ Raquel

THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Jazzaholics (9:30)
TROPHY'S Singer-Songwriter Showcase w/ Jason Weems, Bill Davis, 19th Street Red & Queen B.
THE WATER TANK Karaoke w/ RJ
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Brian Kremer
WHISKY BAR D-Madness, DJ Aquaman

Wed 01

219 WEST The SG Project (7:00)
311 CLUB Devren (8:30)
AGAVE Eric Tessmer (9:00)
ANTONE'S Bob Schneider's Bluegrass Massacre (9:00)
APPLEBEE'S NEIGHBORHOOD BAR & GRILL Marty Linville
ARARAT Oliver Rajamani (8:00)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Shelley King, Carolyn Wonderland
AUSTIN MUSIC CO-OP Laydeez Open Mic
AUSTIN'S PIZZA Natalie Zoe Jazz Trio (8:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB The Rustones
BEERLAND Nigel & Sarah, Basic, Horse + Donkey
BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)
BROKEN SPOKE Lucky Tomblin
BROWN BAR DJ Manny
CACTUS CAFE The Gourds, Michael Fracasso (5:30)
CAFE MUNDI Matt the Electrician, Southpaw Jones, Celia Shecklett
CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke
THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Will Ivey Band, Dollar Dan & the Change (7:00)
CEDAR STREET Trent & Dave (6:00), 80's Party w/ the Spazmatics (9:30)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Kent Finlay's Songwriters Circle
CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO Jacinta (7:00)
CIRCLE COUNTRY CLUB Karaoke (8:00)
CLUB ONE 15 Way Back w/ Cut Creator (9:00)

Take the trip!

THE COCKPIT

Friday, February, 3

CD release event.



Capitol Records invites you to celebrate the release of Morningwood The riff-shredding, ass-shaking, louder-than-life self-titled debut album from NYC-based Morningwood Features the smash hit single "Nth Degree" In stores now. www.morningwoodrocks.com www.capitolrecords.com

Capitol

➤ Afterhours Friday and Saturday! with DJ Eric and DJ Bang!

➤ Tuesdays: with Paris Chanel

Amateur strip night! \$150 & \$100 top prizes!

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FREE THURS. 1/26 @ 8PM
WHIT SMITH
INSIDE SHOW & HIS HOT
JAZZ CARAVAN
SUN. 1/29 @ 11AM
DURDEN FAMILY

FREE MON. 1/30 @ 8PM
ELIZABETH MCQUEEN & JASON ROBERTS
From Asleep At The Wheel
WED. 2/01
AUSTIN SONGWRITER GROUP
dinner @ 5:45pm/meeting @ 7pm/music @ 8pm

OLD No. 1
6416 N. LAMAR BLVD; 512.451.5440
TUES. 1/31 @ 7:30PM
FREE **Rocky Ivy**
WED. 2/01 @ 7:30PM
BOOMER NORMAN TRIO
WWW.THREADGILLS.COM

Mro
SUBMIT YOUR BAND AT
austinchronicle.com/musicreg

mother egan's
irish pub

OPEN FOR LUNCH 11AM EVERY DAY!

fr 1/27 HAPPY HOUR WITH THE DETENTIONS
sa 1/28 CHECK OUT THE ARTIST'S MARKET EVERY WEEKEND AT 713 WEST 6TH ST. NOON-3PM JOIN US FOR OUR ALL-NEW IRISH SUNDAY BRUNCH FEATURING THE TEA MERCHANTS THE BEST TRADITIONAL IRISH MUSIC IN CENTRAL TEXAS
mo 1/30 MONDAY LUNCH SPECIAL FISH AND CHIPS \$5.75 7:30PM MOTHER EGAN'S TEXAS HOLD'EM TOURNAMENT NO COVER, NO MINIMUM PURCHASE, NO REASON NOT TO PLAY.
tu 1/31 TUESDAY LUNCH SPECIAL CHEESEBURGER \$5.75 WITH YOUR CHOICE OF SOUP, SALAD, OR FRIES 7:30-10:30PM MOTHER EGAN'S ALL-NEW TRIVIA QUIZ TESTING AUSTIN'S IQ ONE PINT AT A TIME EVERYONE WELCOME, NO COVER

FREE WIRELESS INTERNET NOW AVAILABLE. MOTHER EGAN'S IS AN OVER 21 PUB. VOTED BEST IRISH PUB, BEST BAR MENU, AND BEST PUB GRUB BY AUSTINCITYSEARCH.COM 2004. MOTHER EGAN'S HAPPY HOUR 4PM-7PM MONDAY-FRIDAY 1/2 PRICE APPETIZERS (ON PREMISES ONLY) MOTHER EGAN'S NEW COVERED DECK IS AVAILABLE FOR WEDDING RECEPTIONS AND PRIVATE PARTIES OF 50 TO 150. FOR MORE INFO CONTACT US AT 512-478-7747. www.motheregansirishpub.com

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1/26 THURSDAY DJ Gerry
1/27 FRIDAY Fabtones
1/28 SATURDAY Patrick Fleming
1/29 SUNDAY Emerald Exiles
1/30 MONDAY Game Night
1/31 TUESDAY Tea Merchants
2/1 WEDNESDAY Pub Quiz w/ Johnny

FlipNOTES COFFEESPACE CAFE
Congratulating Mack, Vince & UT!

Thu 26 Erin Condo-Mark Jungers-Stayton Bonner 8p
Fri 27 Sick-full Band-all night! 8pm
Sat 28 Jade Day Megan Melara 9pm

Sun 29 Anthony De Los Santos 8pm
Mon 30 The Sick Science Project 8pm
Tues' Combo Mahalo 8pm
Wed 1 El Orbits 8pm
thur 2 MamaJama Jazz
fri 3 PlumTucker
sat 4 Blu Sanders ~ Lanky

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6TH & LAMAR 6-8PM EACH THURS. HAPPY HOUR WITH THE HUDSONS
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★SAT., JANUARY 28★ ALLISON THRASH
★WED., FEBRUARY 1★ LEO STOKES

38TH & MEDICAL PARKWAY EVERY WED. HAPPY HOUR WITH PTARMIGAN
EVERY THURS. HAPPY HOUR WITH LARRY HOOPER
★FRI., JANUARY 27★ LEE EDWARDS
★SAT., JANUARY 28★ THE LITTLE GENTLEMAN

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TWO NIGHTS **DOORS 8 SHOW 9**
SPOON LIVE/SPECIAL GUESTS
2/2 I LOVE YOU BUT I'VE CHOSEN DARKNESS
2/3 SONS OF HERCULES
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YONDER MOUNTAIN STRING BAND
CABIN FEVER TOUR 2004
kut 90.5 YONDERMOUNTAIN.COM

SAT FEB 11 **DOORS 8 • SHOW 9**
BIG HEAD TODD AND THE MONSTERS
JACKIE GREENE

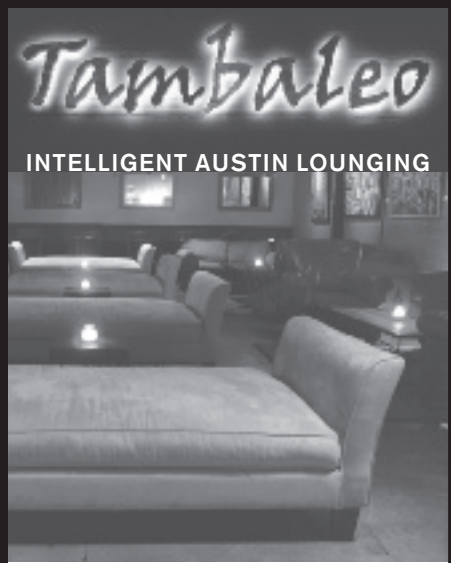
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DOGS & THIEVES TOUR
DOORS 8 • SHOW 9

FRI MAR 3
Buckethead
KID BEYOND DOORS 8 • SHOW 9

FRI MAR 24
STEREOLAB
DOORS 8 • SHOW 9

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FEB 10 OPERATION: AWESOME
FEB 18 GREATNESS IN TRAGEDY
MAR 2 MI AND L'AU

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INTELLIGENT AUSTIN LOUNGING

SUNDAY

Adam Raven & DJ Gobot --- 10:00

MONDAY

Open Mic ----- 8:00-10:00
Brad Brobinsky, Calvin ----- 10:00
Russell & Friends

TUESDAY

The Kurl ----- 10:00

WEDNESDAY

Hip Hop Karaoke w/ ----- 9:00
DJ Mel & David Miranda

THURSDAY

HipHop & Rock w/ ----- 10:00
DJ's Starsign & John Angle

FRIDAY

The Flying Club ----- 7:00
DJ Mel & David Miranda ----- 10:00

SATURDAY

DJ's Kurupt & Inverse ----- 10:00

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Thu 1/26, 8pm
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Fri 1/27, 8pm
Killing In Apathy, D.I.D.I.Y., Havor Duse, Iako Phylum, Curren

Sat 1/28, 8pm
Alythos Album Release
Vex, Alythos, Hammerburn, Disfigured, Axoth.

Sun 1/29, 7pm
[austin swim]
www.austinswim.org

Mon 1/30, 8pm, No Cover Over 21
\$1 Lone Star Drafts, \$2 PER Tall Boys, \$3 Jigger

Tue 1/31, 8pm
Indolfin, Liquid Cheese, Echo Squad, Navin's Thermos, Better Than Nothing

Wed 2/1, 8pm
HONKY TONK night featuring Chris Gates and Gatesville, Jimmy Deveney All Stars

Fri 2/3, 8pm
Johnny Danger's Pimps 'n Hos Party
Johnny Danger, Downstid, The Grindlab

Sat 2/4, 8pm
Ivory Class Album Release
Ivory Class, Fly by Fire, Silver Tongues, This Side Up

2/10 Broken Teeth, The Tels
2/13 Sad Wings (Judas Priest Tribute)
2/14 Course of Ruin, Hell Within, War of Ages

calendar > COMMUNITY > ARTS > FILM > MUSIC

club listings < FROM WEDNESDAY

COFFEE CREATOR Je Renee, Cherilyn, John Wilson (8:30)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gary Clark Jr. (6:30), Jon Dee Graham (10:30), the Possums (12mid)
CUBA LIBRE Havana Nights w/ the Cadaques (8:00)
CYPRESS FALLS TAVERN Jam Night w/ Dennis Lee
THE DIRTY DOG Audio Flava, Joe Richardson Express
THE DRISKILL Kirk Hale
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Bobby Doyle (7:00)
EGO'S Austin Poetry Slam (7:30)
ELEPHANT ROOM Jazz Pharaohs (6:00)
ELYSIUM Mid Wave w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice
EMO'S The Visitors, Hundred Year Storm, Cord
EVANGELINE CAFE Cowboy Johnson (6:00)
FRIENDS John McVey (10:30)
GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL Open Mic w/ Rusty Wier
GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL Karaoke w/ Ian of Echostystemz (8:00)
HANOVER'S Deacon Willie
HEADHUNTERS Exit the Sun, Devola, Slash Rockets
THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Tim Doyle (11:45 am), Woode Wood (noon), Christina Roberts & Guests (7:00), Christina Roberts (8:00)
HILL'S CAFE Matt Deaton
HILLTOP TAVERN Open Mic
HOLE IN THE WALL Roger Wallace, Ridgetop Syncopators, W.T. Special (7:00)
JC'S STEAKHOUSE Adam Donmoyer
JOVITA'S Jodi Adair, Jane Bond (6:00)
LA PALAPA Bobby Fuente & the Flames (8:00)
LAS PALOMAS Javier Chaparro, Rick McRae, Terry Hale, Art Kidd (6:30)
LUCKY LOUNGE Damesviolet (9:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Electric Mayhem
MOMOS Ginn Sisters, Good Time Supper Club, Last Train Home, the Bourbon Soldiers (12:30 am)
MULLIGAN'S Karaoke w/ Stormy (9:00)
NUNO'S ON SIXTH Jagged Banjo, Gary Primich (8:00)
OILCAN HARRY'S Allan T.
ONE WORLD THEATRE George Winston (7:00)
PARDNERS Kara
THE PARLOR Cry Blood Apache, Old Timerz (8:00)
PLUSH Original Block Party w/ DJ Tats (10:00)
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Open Mic w/ Jimmy Lee Jones the Singing Bartender
THE PUB Jam Session w/ Frank
RAGGEDY ANNE'S Karaoke
REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE "Frankly" Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)
RED FEZ Satisfaction w/ DJ Shane
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Marc Devine Trio (7:00)
RENAISSANCE HOTEL Rich Demarco (6:00)
ROADHOUSE Karaoke w/ Billy D
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Glenn Collins Open Mic

SAENGERHALLE Back Porch
Wednesday w/ Mike Graham
SAKE ON SIXTH Get Broke
Wednesdays w/ Merrick Brown
SAXON PUB Pauline Reese (6:00), Monte Montgomery, Barnhill, Sub Committee (8:00)
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS Shooting Star Karaoke (8:00)
SOUTH FORTY Karaoke w/ J.R. the DJ (9:00)
SPEAKEASY The Brew
STUBB'S BAR-B-Q Margot & the Nuclear So & So's
TAMBALEO Hip Hop Karaoke w/ DJ Mel, David Miranda (10:00)
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Colin Gilmore (8:00), Ephraim Owens Quartet (9:30)
TROPHY'S Damp Heat
VICTORY GRILL The Blues Specialists (5:30)
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Ptarmigan
WHISKY BAR Hobo D, DJ Aquaman, DJ Kon Karne
Y BAR & GRILL Singer-Singwriter Night w/ Jenni Lord
Z'TEJAS Stephen Doster, Will Sexton & Friends (6:00)

Thu 02

311 CLUB 3 Piece Special, Joe Valentine & Lynn (8:30)
ALICE'S RESTAURANT Flying \$ Bunkhouse Band
ALLEY 416 Retro Rewind
ANTONE'S Tyrone Vaughan, Ian Moore
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AUNT TILLY'S ISLAND CAFE & BAR Open Mic w/ Rusty Wier (9:30)
AUSTIN JAVA CAFE & BAR Poetry Karaoke Open Mic (8:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Eric Tessmer
BARCELONA DJ Tats
BEERLAND Oh Beast!, Nervous Exits vs. Attack Formation
BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)
BOAT HOUSE GRILL Open Mic w/ Sidney
BROKEN SPOKE Chaparral w/ Jeff Hughes
BROWN BAR mr.ripley
CACTUS CAFE Adrian Legg
CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke
THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke
CEDAR STREET Gaila Trickey (6:00), Sauce (9:30)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Reckless Kelly
CLUB ONE 15 Rock en Español w/ Haydn Vitera (9:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Kenneth Brian (6:30), the Gourds CD Release, Mother Truckers (10:00)
COTTON CLUB Double Barrel (8:30)
DARWIN'S PUB J.T. Coldfire
THE DETOUR Open Mic w/ David John, Big Steve, Easy Dave (8:30)
DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)
EGO'S The Texas Sapphires (9:00)
EMO'S Daylight Titans, Tah Dahs, the Living Blue
FADO Patrick Flemming Power Duo (10:00), DJ Gerry (10:00)
FLAMINGO CANTINA Brownout!, Afroreque (8:30)
THE FOUNDATION Coy West

FREDA'S SEAFOOD GRILLE Jazzoppy (7:00)
GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL Kris Farrow (7:30), Noltey (9:00)
HANOVER'S Karaoke
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HILL'S CAFE Josh Grider
HOLE IN THE WALL Alice Spencer & Her Monkey Butlers, Tenlon's Fort (8:00)
JC'S STEAKHOUSE Adam Donmoyer
JOVITA'S Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)
LA PALAPA Larry Lange's Lonely Knights (8:00)
LA ZONA ROSA I Love You but I've Chosen Darkness, Spoon
LUCKY LOUNGE Ian McLagan & the Bump Band (6:00), Anagen (10:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Vallejo
MAMBO KINGS CLUB Recon Thursday w/ Loki, Secret Agent, Durhdy, Jungle Jim, B-1, DJ Mattis
MOMOS Sex Pistols Experience
MOTHER'S CAFE Doc Grauzer (6:00)
NAT'S PUB Open Mic w/ Big Jim
NUNO'S ON SIXTH Kim & Her Blues Boys, Pride And Joy (8:00)
THE OFFICE LOUNGE Karaoke w/ Jamie
ONE WORLD THEATRE George Winston (7:00)
OSLO The Bumps (9:00), Jeff Strange (11:00)
PARAMOUNT THEATRE Ozomatli (8:00)
PLUSH Get Broke! w/ Merrick Brown
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Freddy Powers & Friends
THE PUB Karaoke
RED FEZ Nuthin' New All-Stars (9:00)
RED'S SCOOT INN The Nortons (8:30)
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Marc Devine, Donna Hightower, Denia Ridley, Marc Devine Trio (6:00)
RENAISSANCE HOTEL Rich Demarco (6:00)
RHINOS & JOCKS Roger Smith
RILEY'S TAVERN Karaoke
ROADHOUSE Open Jam w/ Mojo (8:00)
ROMEO'S Jacinta (6:30)
SAXON PUB Geezinslaws, Cyril Neville's Tribe 13, Carolyn Wonderland (6:00)
SHENANIGANS Billy D
SKY LOUNGE Retro Thursdays w/ DJ Def M
STUBB'S BAR-B-Q Oliver Future
TAMBALEO DJ Holland (10:00)
TEXAS BAR & GRILL Open Mic w/ Henry Craft
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Stephen Doster & Will Sexton
TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Annoying Instrumental Orchestra (7:30)
THE VELVET SPADE Topaz (10:00)
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE The Walking Contradictions
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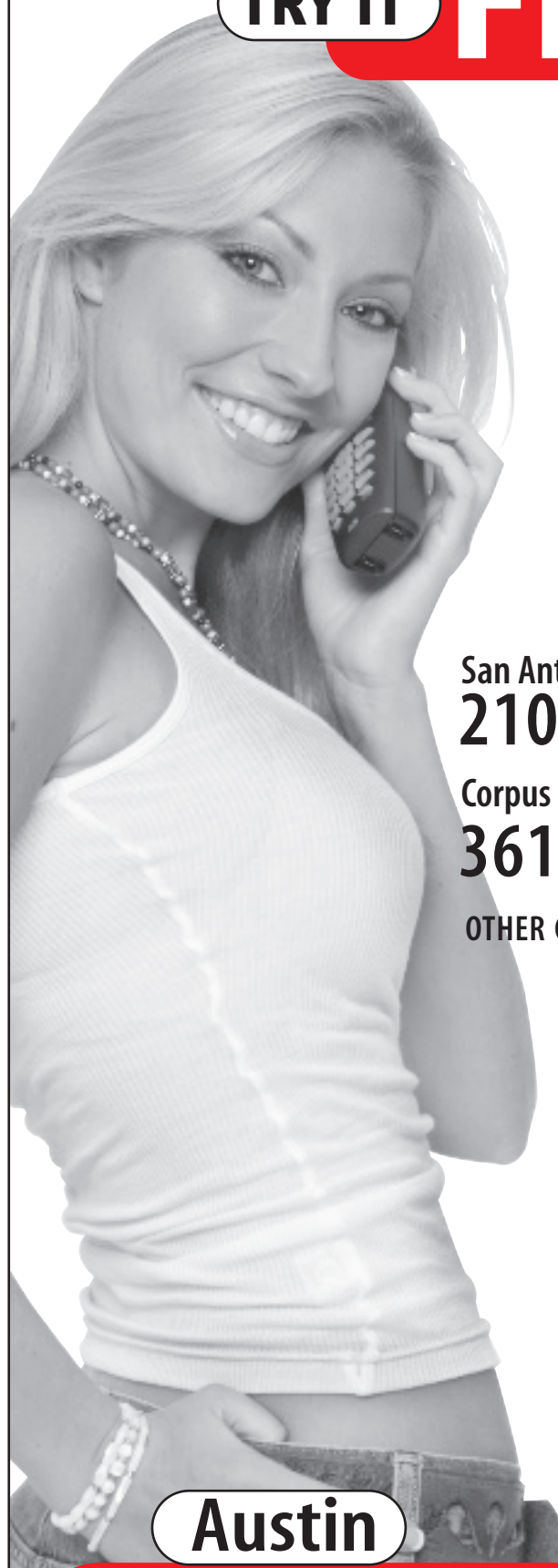
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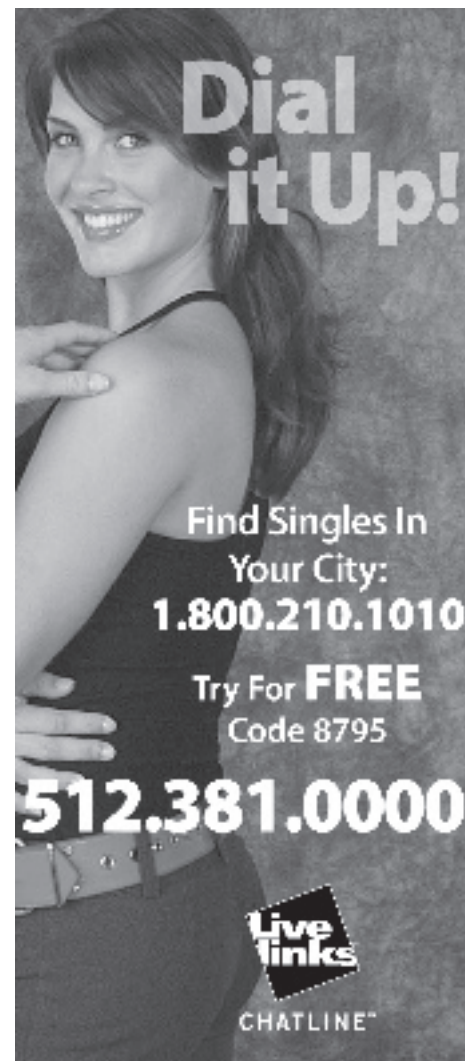
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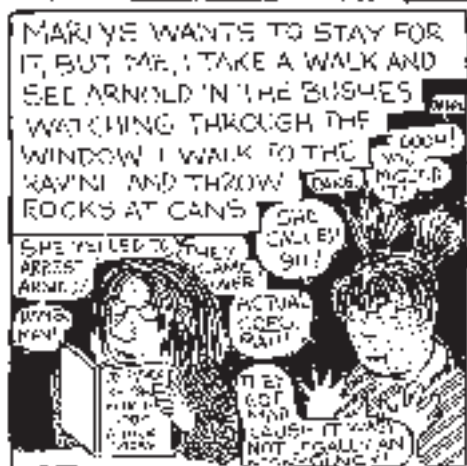
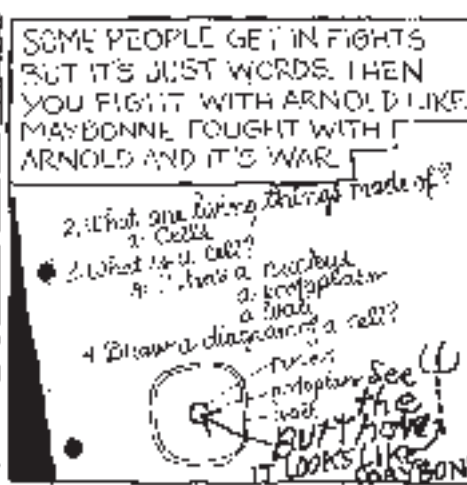
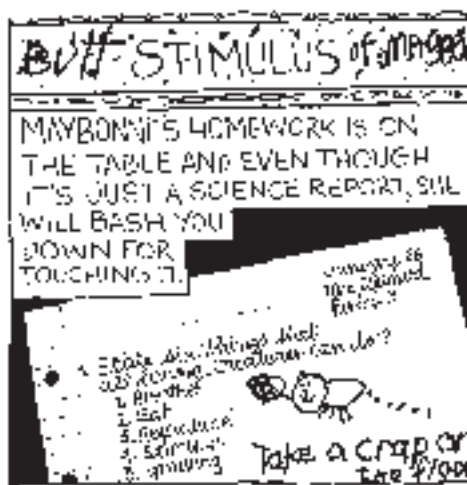
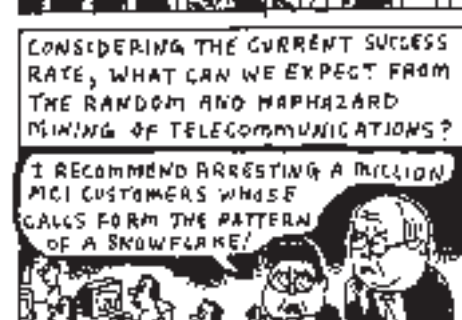
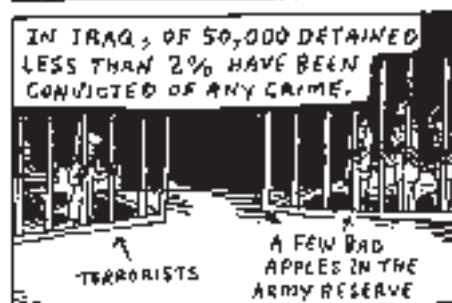
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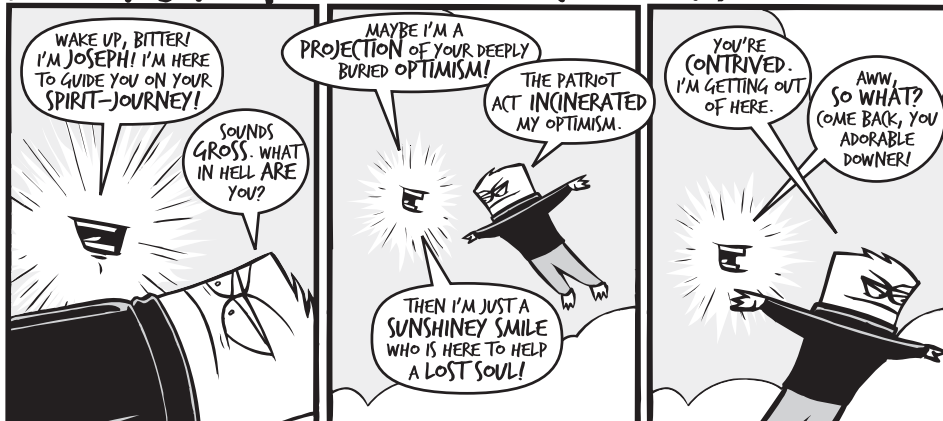
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According to cartoon artist Gilbert Shelton (then a writer for *The Texas Ranger*), when Bob Dylan came to Austin on tour in 1965, he checked in at the Villa Capri as "Chuck U. Farley."

There are 69 master chefs in the world, and 13 of them are teachers at the Culinary Institute of America.

Ben Franklin invented the rocking chair circa 1760.

The above is information that Mr. Smarty Pants read in a book, a magazine, or the newspaper; heard on the radio; saw on television; or overheard at a party. Got facts? Write to Mr. Smarty Pants at the Chronicle, or e-mail mrpants@austinchronicle.com.

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Messages

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Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-6pm

Deadlines: Tuesday, 1pm

Phone: 512-454-5767

Email: classifieds@austinchronicle.com



110 ART/DESIGN

ART

AUSTIN ROCKS
\$300-\$800/wk. TO START
Expanding Art Co. seeks 10
enthusiastic people who like
to work w/ other fun guys &
gals. Must like \$, music & travel.
No exp. nec. Mgmt. training
avail. For immediate interview,
Call 512-926-7300 ext. 3

HAIRSTYLIST 2 weeks Free
Rent! Urban Betty Beautique,
located in the upscale 26 Doors
Shopping Ctr. Close to UT &
Dwtn. Chair rental is \$225/wk
with 15% commission on retail.
PureOlogy, Wella, Loma, &
Matrix. Call 371-7663 or email
chelle@urbanbetty.com

HAIRSTYLIST Hip, Old
South Austin House. Parking
Too! Imagine. Ph 576-4683.
1704 Evergreen Avenue.

HAIRSTYLIST Positions
available, Booth Rental
Downtown W 6th St Loca-
tion. Established Salon. Call
Ronnie 217-5673 or 474-8261.

HAIRSTYLIST Happy New
Year! Get a great start @ a
new location on Lamar and
34th. Chair rent. 451-6267.

HAIRSTYLIST, TECHNICIANS Full Time, call
(512)554-8895

HAIRSTYLISTS / NAIL TECHS Lease \$130/wk.
Downtown location. Lots of
walk-ins. 320-5907.

MASSAGE THERAPIST
wanted for Pflugerville chiro-
practic office. Tues-Sat.
Leave mssg 228-6362.

NAIL TECH desired at Orbit
Salon. Upbeat salon full of
nice people. 512.480.0382
http://www.orbitsalon.net

SKIN CARE Sales people for
carts in Lake line, Barton creek
malls 512-382-0175

STYLIST Aziz Salon hiring all
positions, 476-4131, downtown
Austin, 30 yrs, great
company. Azizsalon.com

If you have a fun loving attitude
& enjoy a party atmosphere,
then you are ready for a great
fall of fun and \$\$\$!!

SEEKING OUTGOING,
ENERGETIC PEOPLE

**AM & PM
ENTERTAINERS
WAITSTAFF**

FUN FALL JOB!
GREAT MONEY!

FLEXIBLE
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404 HIGHLAND MALL BLVD.

120 ENTERTAINMENT CASTING

CASTING *MOVIE EXTRAS*
earn \$150-\$300/Day. All
Looks/Types Needed. No
Experience Necessary. TV,
Music Videos, Commercials,
Film, Print. Call Tollfree 7
days! 1-800-260-3949 x3025.
(AAN CAN)

DANCERS Needed for club
promotions. Males & Fe-
males, all styles. Call today
440-7171.

TALENT search! New talent
needed and paid every day.
Contact at 415-9230 or e-mail at
modelsmoney@yahoo.com.

THEATRE DIRECTORS
Interviews will be held Feb. 2.
Call 248-9915 to schedule.

125 GENERAL

ACTIVISTS

CORPORATE POLLUTERS STINK!
Right now, polluters have
incentive to pollute more of
our waterways and
communities. Work to make
polluters pay their fair share.
Put communities before
profits! Call today, start
tomorrow. 474-1903.
M-F, FT/PT available.
\$345-500/wk.

APARTMENT LOCATORS
Needed for expanding
Downtown groovy office. Real
estate license required. Call 472-
9100, or fax resume to 472-1723

BABYSITTER Needed in my
home for 2, 4 or 5 nights a
week for 11 month old. South
location, 351-6367.

BARTENDER NEEDED, Airport
Grill & Club. 2039 Airport. 499-8744.

CARD DEALERS

Opportunity to work at the
Gentleman's club without
taking your clothes off.

DEALING CARDS & FREE TRAINING.

Call 512-762-3831

CLEANING SERVICE Campus
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COACHES P/T Looking for
athletes to teach sports to
kids after school 3-6pm.
Mon- Thu. Tennis, Soccer, T-
Ball. Chess. \$8 & up. Contact
Lincoln at 769-6684.

COURIERS Commission
wages + gas allowance.
Dependable vehicle & cell
phone needed. Mon-Fri
8am-5pm. Call 459-7472

CUSTOMER SERVICE Start
Work Now. \$2300/ Month to
start. Call 512.258.3021.

DAY CARE Sweet and Warm
Day Care at Home.silvana
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DRIVERS

**\$1,000 Student
Sign-On Bonus**
Company-Paid CDL Training
NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED
Earn up to \$37,000
Your First Year
P.A.M. TRANSPORT
Driver Training Hotline
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DRIVERS Start a new career.
Get your commercial drivers
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Jobs available upon
completion! 1-800-343-9115

DRIVER Driver needed, hours
vary. Must be flexible and have
own vehicle. Call for details.
(512) 779-5563.

**DELIVERY DRIVER FOR
FLORIST** Valentine Delivery
Driver 302.9969

FITNESS TRAINER Perfect
career change. Change lives
through exercise. We'll prepare
you. Assured best pay. Email
resume to
mondello911@hotmail.com

FLORIST DRIVER Floral
Delivery Drivers needed for
Valentine's week. Must have own
vehicle Van or SUV preferred but
not required. Call:512-444-8113 to
schedule appointment

**HOME BUSINESS PAID IN
ADVANCE!!** \$1000+/WK Mailing
Brochures from home. Earn
\$4/Brochure. Guaranteed! 100%
legit. www.startmailingnow.com

LIFEGUARDS needed at Circle C,
\$7.00-\$7.80 hourly, must be at
least 16 y.o., pass swim test & have
valid license for Amer. Red Cross
Lifeguarding, CPR-FPR, & First
Aid. Flexible schedule, availability
early mornings/evenings/
weekends preferred, 15-40 hours
weekly, paid in-service, free
uniform, fax resume 288-6488 or
email pool@circlecranch.info

LODGE STAFF GET OUT OF
THE HEAT THIS SUMMER BY
WORKING IN THE MONTANA
ROCKIES!

Glacier Park Inc. operates the 7
historic lodges in Glacier
National Park, MT, and is
currently hiring the for the 2006
season. Join us at the Crowne
Plaza Hotel in downtown Austin
on Sunday, January 29th from
10am-6pm for our JOB FAIR. No
appointments are necessary, but
you may call 406-892-6739 to
schedule an interview if inter-
ested in a management position.
Positions are available starting
in May, June, July, or August.
Most positions end in Sept.

FRONT DESK

RETAIL
HOUSEKEEPING
COOKS
SERVERS
LAUNDRY
WAREHOUSE
TOUR DRIVERS
NIGHT AUDIT

BARTENDERS

3 meals and housing provid9ed
for \$10/day. Added incentives /
bonuses available for mgmt. If
you miss the job fair, apply
online at www.gphr.com, or call
406-892-6739 for an application.

MYSTERY SHOPPERS GET
PAID TO SHOP! Join the
world's largest Mystery Shop-
ping Company today! Flex-
ible, fun & free to join. Apply
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MYSTERY SHOPPERS Get
paid to shop, earn up to \$150
per day! No experience re-
quired. Call 1-800-601-5518.
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NANNY full board, car,
cable/phone/internet PLUS \$\$.
Professional couple, mild-
mannered 8 month old and 2
boys (ages 5 & 9). General child
care & help with household up-
keep. Ideal opportunity to be
part of a vibrant, happy
household if you have time to
devote in exchange for a place
in our home. 431-3555

**OUTSIDE SALES CORPO-
RATE SPONSORSHIPS** M.R.P
Motor sport of Austin is look-
ing for a ambitious goal
oriented Sales Person to sell
sponsorship signage at our
Flagship Kart Racing Track
located at Austin Bergstrom
Airport. Top Commission to
the right person. For an inter-
view Call 512-892-4570
www.rockkarts.com

PART TIME

**Extend-A-Care
Kids**

Children are our future.
Be a positive role model
working with elementary
age children in the afternoons.
Starting pay \$8.75-\$9.35/hr.
EOE. Sites at 61 elementary
schools. Apply at
Extend-A-Care for Kids,
55 North IH 35,
www.eackids.org,
or call 472-9929 x408.

REAL ESTATE AGENT
Experience, license, self-
motivated. Primarily leasing,
some sales. Small Barton
Springs area office. Leads
provided. Great commis-
sion-split. Call Greg 825-2719.

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Put Your Bachelor's
Degree to Work!
50+ Positions Available!!!
Randstad, in partnership with Harcourt
Assessment, needs degreed individuals
to Read and Score educational tests. No
experience required, paid training
provided. Bring your official transcript.
\$11.00-\$12.10 including bonus
potential. Work hours are M-F 8:15-4:30.
Projects through June. Bring work
authorization documents.

Please apply this week at the:
Texas WorkSource Center
6505 Airport Blvd.
Either 9AM OR 1PM, Tuesday through
Friday.

EOE

47 IMMEDIATE OPENINGS!
NEW YEARS RESOLUTIONS?
START NOW AND BRING IN 2006 IN HIGH GEAR!
\$2,300+ IF QUALIFIED
NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY
FULL COMPANY TRAINING
ENTRY LEVEL & MANAGEMENT POSITIONS
Call **512-267-4203**

WANNA WIN A NATIONAL TITLE WITH US?
18 OPENINGS
\$2,250/MONTH TO START
LOCAL COMPANY WITH PERMANENT WORK
Need guys & gals with desire to work full-time
No experience necessary • Earn paid vacations
On-the-job training provided
Work hours: M-F 2-11pm; Sat 8:30-6pm
512/401-2100

CONTINUED **125**
GENERAL

REALTORS Austin Distinction Realty. Austin Distinction Realty is now seeking top producing licensed real estate agents. Must qualify for the team. Two teams forming now. Must have at least one designation, impeccably professional and needs of a high end target market, must be a good listener, very strong in your presentation, understand real estate investment strategy, and you probably own your own real estate investments. We offer leads, company designed listing presentation (with training), advertising and marketing, and a great split. We are looking for agents that desire a team atmosphere of cooperation with other company agents, willing to train, share knowledge, and/or build your own team. Call 1-800-874-1917 Ext. 5899.

SEAMSTRESS Hiring seamstress to create and repair costumes for local dance company. Call Hawaiian Tiki Store 440-7171 for details or come by 1500 W. Ben White.

SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE 47 Immediate openings \$2300+ If Qualified. Call 512-267-4203

130
HEALTHCARE

HEALTH ATTENDANT Attention Nursing & Pre-Med majors, seeking energetic & cheerful Home Health attendants. \$11/hr. Will train, all shifts avail. Call Sarah Mon-Fri. 8am-5pm for appt. No LATE Calls to Clinic Please. 512-371-3036

135
HOSPITALITY

ALL NOW HIRING
JIMMY JOHN'S
A fun and exciting workplace! Apply in person at 601 W. MLK, 515 Congress or 3203 Red River.

Jimmy John's Sandwiches is looking for CREW and DRIVERS. A fun and exciting workplace! Apply in person at 601 W. MLK, 515 Congress or 3203 Red River.

ALL
Mirabelle RESTAURANT
Now Hiring:
• PM Server
• PM Host \$10+
• PM Busser \$10+
Upscale, fast paced. Voted Austin's Favorite Restaurant by Austin Chronicle Reader's Poll. Please Apply Mon.-Fri between 2pm-5pm. 8127 Mesa Dr/ 346-7900

ALL POSITIONS
Current Employment opportunities:
• Cook
• Waitstaff
• Host Staff
• Beverage Servers
• Beverage Cart Attnds.
• Busperson / Steward
• Order Taker
• Concierge
• Reservation Agent
• Asst. Front Office Mgr.
• Front Desk Agent
• Acct. Cashier
• Acct. Billing Coordinator
• Human Resources Asst.
• Audio Visual Asst. Mgr.
• PBX Operators
• Housekeepers AM/PM
• Night Cleaners
• Golf Course Admin Asst.
• Golf Shop Clerk
• Golf Range Attnds.
• Nail Technician
• Pilates Instructor
• Massage Therapist
• Greenskeeper
• Golf Course Spray Tech
Apply in person Monday-Friday 8:30-5PM, 8212 Barton Club Drive, Austin, Texas 78735. Email resumes to jobs@bartoncreek.com or fax your information to 512-329-4014. Website: http://www.bartoncreek.com
Barton Creek offers a complete benefits package & competitive wages. EOE

ALL POSITIONS
AT THE NEW HOOVER'S COOKING LOCATION AT:
13376 Research Blvd #400 (Anderson Mill & 183)
Call 335-0300

BAKER We are looking for an experienced pastry baker, PT, 2-4 shifts a week. Commercial bakery exp. only. Apply at Quack's Bakery, 411 East 43rd St.

BANQUET MANAGER Prestigious downtown private club seeks experienced banquet manager. FT with benefits. Apply in person only, 2-4pm, M-F, at the Austin Club, 110 E. 9th St.

BARTENDER
La Morada
Mexican Restaurant

What experience do you need? A great smile, like to meet all kinds of people, and able to have fun at work. If you that person, than apply at 12407 N. Mopac Expy (next to HEB) or call **836-6611**

BARTENDER \$300/day. No experience necessary. 1-800-965-6520 x207

CAFE STAFF Seeking warm, friendly, and experienced lunch host/floor manager, pm host, waitstaff. Drop off resume between 2:30-4:30 pm Mon-Fri. Castle Hill Cafe 1101 W 5th 476-7218. Voted Austin's Favorite Restaurant. 5 consecutive years.

START WORK NOW
LARGE EXPANDING CORPORATION IN AUSTIN AREA
FULL AND OVERTIME AVAILABLE
Customer Service
Entry Level & Management Available
\$2,300/MONTH TO START IF QUALIFIED
CALL **258-3021**

TELECOM ENGINEER
IA Testing, VoIP, ISDN, Telecom Switches (Nortel, Lucent)
US Citizen, BSEE prefer MSEE
IPSecure1@aol.com

CASHIER Friendly, smiling face needed for PT position in locally owned restaurant at 620/2222, Near Lake Travis. AM and PM shifts. 249-5200

COOK Exp., creative cook sought to build our salad, soup, sandwich & breakfast menus. FT Days. Apply @ Quack's 411 E. 43rd. St. 453-3399.

COOK/WAITSTAFF COUNTY LINE ON THE HILL, 6500 Bee Caves Rd. Daytime lunch WAIT and COOK positions open. Wage + tips. Call Dee Dee at 327-1742.

CREW
FREEBIRDS
BURRITO
FREEBIRDS TECH RIDGE (Parmer and I35, behind Office Depot) hiring all positions. Excellent customer service skills required! Apply online at www.freebirds.com, or at 1100 Center Ridge Drive

DANCERS & WAITRESSES
The Landing Strip
MAKE BIG \$\$\$
FT/PT, flex. sched., no exp. nec., 745 Bastrop Hwy, one mile from the airport. 385-2878.

DELIVERY
BIG TIPS!!
LUNCH, DINNER & WEEKEND SHIFTS
Make the most of your time Deliver food from Austin's best restaurants Earn up to \$15 per hour - Paid Daily Call 346-9990 or Email: **EatOutIn@yahoo.com**

FLOOR ASSISTANT MANAGER OPPORTUNITY
Please Apply at **XTC Cabaret**
Call 512-929-3558
DRESS TO IMPRESS

WAITSTAFF & HOST
La Morada
Mexican Restaurant

Have fun at work and bank some cash, flexible hours. No exp. necessary. Apply for our team at 12407 N. Mopac Expy (next to HEB) or call 836-6611

145
OFFICE/CLERICAL
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT FT/PT needed ASAP Central. Fax 474-9488.

GOVERNMENT JOBS
GOVERNMENT JOBS \$12-\$48/Hr. Full Benefits/Paid Training. Work available in areas like Homeland Security, Law Enforcement, Wildlife, More! 1-800-320-9353 x2001. (AAN CAN)

RECEPTIONIST Busy downtown salon seeking receptionist for Saturdays. Please call Crystal 474-6806

150
NON-PROFIT
ACTIVISM
Fight the Bush Agenda! Make a difference in 2006
Win senate & house elections
Protect the environment
Defend your civil liberties
DNC, Sierra Club, HRC, Planned Parenthood & others. Up to \$16/hr w/ guaranteed base, flexible PT & FT schedules, Call Chris 916-4001 www.telefund.com

TABC CERTIFICATION
www.sixthstreetcertification.com
Call for Class Schedule 576-7223
WAIT PERSON Dirty Martin's Hamburgers FULL or PT, Exp. required, Current TABC certificate needed & Exc. references. Apply 3-5 M-F, 2808 Guadalupe

LET GO of your **STOMACH PROBLEMS**

Are you a woman experiencing any of these symptoms?

- Early fullness while eating
- Post-meal fullness
- Bloating

You may have a digestive condition called **DYSPEPSIA**, which may occur during or after eating. Our physicians are conducting a research study for **DYSPEPSIA** with the investigational use of an already approved medication and invite you to take part. If you qualify you will receive all study examinations and study medication.

For more information, please call Toll Free:
1-888-900-2673

Austin Gastroenterology, PA
4310 James Casey, Suite 4A
Austin

www.belly911.com



Men and Women With High Blood Pressure

A clinical research trial is being conducted to study the possible blood pressure lowering effect of an investigational medication.

To Qualify You Must Be:

- ▲ 18 years or older
- ▲ Willing to make up to 10 visits over 14 weeks

Qualified Participants May Receive:

- ▲ Study-related investigational medication or placebo
- ▲ Study-related laboratory and physical examinations
- ▲ Compensation up to \$500.00 for time and travel

Contact us for more

information...

Phone: (512) 732-2444
FAX: (512) 732-2446

studies@metaclin.com

WWW.METACLIN.COM

METACLIN

RESEARCH STUDIES

Attention Ladies

Are you currently experiencing the itching, burning, irritation and/or swelling commonly associated with a vaginal infection? Do you also have vaginal discharge with a fishy odor? If so, you may qualify to participate in a clinical research study of an investigational medication for yeast infection and bacterial vaginosis.

Benchmark Research is seeking female volunteers who are age 18 or older, and who are currently suffering from bacterial vaginosis and a yeast infection.



Qualified participants will receive at no cost:

- Study related exams
- Study related lab tests
- Investigational medication

Eligible participants may also receive up to \$150 compensation for their time.

For More Information Please Call:

1-800-369-2875

www.benchmarkresearch.net

BENCHMARK
RESEARCH

FutureSearch Trials



is currently conducting INPATIENT and OUTPATIENT research studies for people with:

DEPRESSION
ANXIETY
BIPOLAR DISORDER

Participants should be at least 18 years of age. Be able to provide written informed consent. Financial compensation to those who qualify.

CALL 380-9595



Type 2 Diabetes

Healthcare Discoveries needs Type 2 Diabetic males or females ages 35 to 70 for a clinical research study. You must have been diagnosed with Type 2 Diabetes.

Participants complete:

- A screening visit
- A 23 night stay in our research facility

Compensation up to \$6,325.00. For information call our recruitment hotline at 1-877-848-7425 or on the web at

www.healthcare-discoveries.com

WISDOM TEETH?



Are you having wisdom teeth pain? SCIREX in Austin is looking for men, and women of non-childbearing potential, to participate in a research study evaluating an investigational medication for post-operative pain, following wisdom teeth removal.

Qualified study participants may have their wisdom teeth removed, at no charge, by an experienced oral surgeon, receive study medication and financial compensation.

- Potential participants must be healthy men or women of non-childbearing potential, 18-40 years old
- Have 2 wisdom teeth requiring extraction
- May receive up to \$1,175 financial compensation

For more information call
320-1630

SCIREX

CONTINUED 150
NON-PROFIT

ACTIVISM • 512-326-5655

Can't take 3 more years of Lies, War, & Destruction??

We cultivate activists to take back Democracy!

- \$375-\$460/wk + benes
- M-F 2-10 PM
- College/Exp. Pref'd.

texasenviroment.org

ADMINISTRATIVE Full time Administrative Associate. The Austin Office of the American Friends Service Committee-Central Region seeks a full-time Administrative Associate. Applicant must have 3 years experience in office admin-istration: strong computer, and spanish skills required. This job is ideal for someone pursuing a career in non-profit administration. For application contact Gwen Sullivan: email: austinsearch@afsc.org.

COORDINATOR AIDS Services of Austin seeking a Full Time Mpowement Small Groups Coordinator to asst. in conducting evidence based HIV prevention intervention (Mpowement). Responsible for recruiting & facilitating group discussions among young gay, bisexual and questioning men. High School diploma required. Exp. with HIV and working with diverse populations a must. Min. 2 years exp. facilitating group discussions. Looking for self-motivated person with proven experience in successful community organizing and planning. Bilingual (Spanish) a plus. EOE/ADA. Cover ltr & resume to: Attn: HR, ASA, PO Box 4874, Austin, 78765 or fax 512-452-3299 or email ASA.Mail@asaustin.org. Close date 1/23/06. No phone calls please.

DONATE CARS \$1000 Gift. \$1000 Shopping Spree. Free Next Day Pick up. IRS Deduction. Lydia's House for Abused Women. Call 1-888-484-5437.

155
PROFESSIONAL

ENGINEERING ASSOCIATE for construction Field inspections and to support Senior Transportation Engineer, Masters in Civ. Eng. Or foreign equiv + 6 mo exp. Resumes to: HR at CAS Consulting and Services, Inc. 6633 Hwy 290 East, Ste 104, Austin, TX 78723

GROUP LEADER RNA Technologies-Plan a series of experiments and tests to demonstrate the feasibility of scientific ideas or to develop specific RNA products. Fax resume to:

512/447-6837, or mail to: **Corporate Recruiter, Ambion, Inc., 2130 Woodward St., Austin, Tx 78744. EOE**

MULTIMEDIA TECH Small multimedia co. needs talented & creative indiv. for website maint., video editing, & data mgmt. Fax Resume to 866-894-1767

REPORTER WANTED Are you serious about news? At least 3 years experience at weekly or daily paper required. Advancement Opportunities. Contact Emily, restoration with samples. No phone calls. Confidentiality Assured. Urban Tulsa Weekly 710 S Kenosha, Tulsa, OK 74120. elberman@urbantulsa.com

WEBSITE COORDINATOR EMERALDS webteam seeks a smart and focused individual adept at HTML, PhotoShop, writing for the web, experienced in blogging, e-commerce and e-marketing. Contact Mark Alman, ma365@hotmail.com

160
RESEARCH STUDY

WISDOM TEETH WISDOM TEETH?

Are you having wisdom teeth pain? SCIREX in Austin is looking for men, and women of non-childbearing potential, to participate in a research study evaluating an investigational medication for post-operative pain, following wisdom teeth removal.

Qualified study participants may have their wisdom teeth removed, at no charge, by an experienced oral surgeon, receive study medication and financial compensation.

- Potential participants must be healthy men or women of nonchildbearing potential, 18-40 years old
- Have 2 wisdom teeth requiring extraction

- May receive up to \$1,175 financial compensation
- For more information call:

320-1630
SCIREX

MEDICAL TRIALS STUDIES 4 US - Paid Research needs US View our FREE study list at www.biotrax.com

TYPE 2 DIABETICS

Healthcare Discoveries needs Type 2 diabetic males or females ages 35-70 for a clinical research study. You must have been diagnosed with Type 2 Diabetes.

Participants complete:

- A Screening Visit

- A 23 night stay in ourresearch facility.

Compensation up to \$6,325 for information call ourrecruitment hotline at1-877-848-7425 or visit

Healthcare-Discoveries.com

DYSPEPSIA
LET GO OF YOUR STOMACH PROBLEMS

Are you a woman experiencing any of these symptoms?

- Early fullness while eating
- Post-meal fullness
- Bloating

You may have a digestive condition called **DYSPEPSIA**, which may occur during or after eating. Our physicians are conducting a research study for **DYSPEPSIA** with the investigational use of an already approved medication and invite you to take part. If you qualify you will receive all study examinations and study medication.

For more information, please call Toll Free: **1-888-900-2673**
Austin Gastroenterology, PA
4310 James Casey, Suite 4A
Austin, TX
<http://www.belly911.com>

YEAST INFECTION ATTENTION LADIES

Are you currently experiencing the itching, burning, irritation and/or swelling commonly associated with a vaginal infection? Do you also have vaginal discharge with a fishy odor? If so, you may qualify to participate in a clinical research study of an investigational medication for yeast infection and bacterial vaginosis.

Benchmark Research is seeking female volunteers who are age 18 or older, and who are currently suffering from bacterial vaginosis and a yeast infection.

Qualified participants will receive at no cost:

- Study related exams
- Study related lab tests
- Investigational medication

Eligible participants may also receive up to \$150 compensation for their time.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL **1-800-369-2875**
<http://www.benchmarkresearch.net>

BENCHMARK RESEARCH

BLOOD PRESSURE
MEN AND WOMEN WITH HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE

A clinical research trial is being conducted to study the possible blood pressure lowering effect of an investigational medication.

To Qualify You Must Be:

- 18 years or older

- Willing to make up to 11 visits over 14 weeks

Qualified Participants May Receive:

- Study-related investigational medication or placebo
- Study-related laboratory and physical examinations
- Compensation for time and travel

For information call or visit our website
MetaClin Research
<http://www.metcclin.com>
studies@metacclin.com
(512) 732-2444

METACLIN

MENTAL HEALTH

FutureSearch Trials is currently conducting INPATIENT and OUTPATIENT research studies for people with:

DEPRESSION, ANXIETY, BIPOLAR DISORDER

Participants should be at least 18 years of age. Be able to provide written informed consent. Financial compensation to those who qualify.

Call 380-9595

DONOR PROGRAM
SEMEN DONORS NEEDED

Fairfax Cryobank seeks college educated men 18-39 to participate in 6 month donor program. Avg. \$150 per specimen. Call today for free application or apply online at <http://www.123donate.com>.

165
RETAIL

SALES STAFF FT/PT counter help, order taker in natural health environment. Cheerful, motivated self-starter needed. Computer savvy, familiar with point-of-sale systems. Call Morning Star Trading Co. today at (512) 476-1726.

170
SALES MARKETING

POKER INTERNSHIP IN COSTA RICA Summer 2006 Internship with Online Gaming Company Absolute Poker is looking for three qualified candidates for a summer internship based in San Jose, Costa Rica. To apply and/or learn more about this internship opportunity, please visit www.pokerinternships.com, or contact info@pokerinternships.com.

PROMOTIONS Need money now? Can't wait for a paycheck? No Experience Needed, Company Training Provided, Great Incentives Available, 27 Positions Available. Starting at \$2,250 per month. Call 512-203-0835 Now.

REPS WANTED To Market New Patented Device to Fastest Growing Industry, PT/FT (877)700-7226

SALES Phone Sales/ Fundraising for Zach Scott Theatre. VERIFIABLE EXPERIENCE REQ'D! Part Time-Evenings. Hourly, + comm., bonuses. Creative and fun workplace! Pls. leave a brief message before 3 pm at 476-0594, x250 or email brian@zachscott.com.

SALES SALES. Unique mortgage processors wanted in Tucson, Arizona. Right attitude, right effort, right concentration. If you live old school values and suffer from personal integrity, we invite you to apply for a position at our progressive mortgage company. Our vision is to steward great minds & hearts, bringing continued success and growth not only to ourselves, but to our clients and our community. (520) 498-1500. (AAN CAN)

SALES HOW GOOD ARE YOU? Seek If Motivated Mar-niacs II expand Texas Market. Top Producers earning \$15,000 + Monthly. Serious Please Call 1-800-657-9212.

SALES & MARKETING AUSTIN FILM SOCIETY. DIRECTOR OF SALES & MARKETING. Market Austin Studios (Austin, Texas) to a variety of studio & independent productions. Details at www.austinfilm.org

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175
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WRITING PROGRAM Diversity in Journalism: The Academy for Alternative Journalism, established by papers like this one to promote diversity in the alternative press, seeks talented journalists and students (college seniors and up) for a paid summer writing program at Northwestern UniversityAfs Medill School of Journalism. The eight-week program (June 18 - August 13, 2006) aims to recruit talented candidates from diverse backgrounds and train them in magazine-style feature writing. Ten participants will be chosen and paid \$3,000 plus housing and travel allowances. For information and a downloadable application visit the Web site at <http://www.altjournalism.org>. You may also email us at altacademy@northwestern.edu. Applications must be postmarked by February 10, 2006. Northwestern University is an equal opportunity educator and employer. (AAN CAN)

180
TECHNICAL

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215
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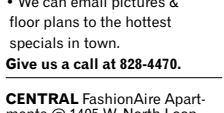
CENTRAL South Congress One Bedrooms !!! Vaulted ceilings, skylight in bedroom 450/mo. - Walk to restaurants, coffee shops, shopping. 512-480-8311 Express Realty

CENTRAL Clarksville Duplex. Near DT/Lake, 1000 sf, 2/1 + office, hardwoods, W/D. 1810-B Palma Plaza. \$895. SPM 478-5588 or email shamrockrentals@yahoo.com

CENTRAL http://austincool.com 693-7231 rare zilver treasure, stone floors, total remodel, paid gas cook/heat

CENTRAL Eclectic downtown lofts. Big Dogs OK! 231-1400 Broker.

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CENTRAL 5222 Marymount. 4/2, spacious totally remodeled house, 4 mi. from UT, fenced, garage, pets OK. Avail NOW! \$1000. 947-8806.

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CENTRAL http://austincool.com 693-7231 Dwn'tn Soco cool studio eclectic ABP \$650

CENTRAL 1 bed/1 bath in small, quiet community. Large floorplan with balcony & basic cable paid. Contact Lacey @ 469.0925

CENTRAL 693-7231 http://austincool.com hidden small prop treasure, 78704 2-2 \$700

CENTRAL Downtown Living. 1/1 700sf. \$1075 atxrelo.com 444-0505

CENTRAL CONDO FOR RENT \$975/mo*Far West/Mopac* gated complex*2 bdrm*2-story*UT shuttle*pool/spa*water pd* W/D & frig*6 mos-1 yr*no pets*Call Jeanne, RE/MAX Austin Assoc 512-964-8100!

CENTRAL ENFIELD - TARRYTOWN. Huge 2/2, 1,300 sqft. \$925. LSL 326-5757.

CENTRAL NORTH CAMPUS \$99 Move In Special! 2-2, W/D Included. \$700 Month 1-1 \$495 "All Bills Paid", 2-1 \$550

SOUTH SOLA Townhome 2.5 split level \$700 month Large 2-2 \$595, Free Cable Large 1-1 \$485, Free cable Very cool Eff., \$419
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CENTRAL Hyde Park - Cozy 1 BR Apt. w/ private patio, stained concrete floors, CACH, Paid Water. 450 sf. 4205 Speedway. \$595. 451-0414.

CENTRAL 1 br/1 ba condo just minutes north of UT. Walking distance to campus. Close to UT shuttle and Route 5 bus stop in front of complex. Available immediately. Call Jana at 512-246-9906 or 512-661-8807.

CENTRAL \$99 Total Move-in! 78704 neighborhood and creekside! Huge 1BDRM... \$550, 2BDRM FLAT... \$650. Call Team Leasing 416-8333.

CENTRAL Best Value in Austin! Recently renovated units conveniently located near UT Campus in Hyde Park. These units are priced to Lease! Call 512-346-2946 for more information. mperez@hudsonjones.com www.breburnapartments.com

CENTRAL \$99 Total M/I! No JOKE Ugly/CHEAP! 350 p/m Call Heather (512)589-2495

CENTRAL http://austincool.com 693-7231 cute barton Hills studio in wooded prop.\$510

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CENTRAL Papa Knows Best. 3 months FREE, huge 2 bd W/D conn. Call Matt (512) 363-3680 matt_papa@texasapt.com

CENTRAL http://austincool.com 693-7231 huge 2bd West Dwn'tn TH, w/d, walk, nightlife

CENTRAL On Town Lake Hike-and-Bike trail. Ceramic tile, modern appliances, free cable! Big 1BDRM \$495. Huge 2/2, \$605! Call TEAM LEASING. 416-8333.

CENTRAL GUARDS IN LR. gourmet remodeled kitchens, gas range, huge floorplans. 1br \$575, 2 br \$650. 231-1400, agent

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CENTRAL 1/1 in quiet complex in old Austin residential neighborhood. Wood floors, walk-in closet. Paid Gas & Cable. On-site pool & Laundry. 5001 Bull Creek. 451-0414.

CENTRAL 1 block to SoCo Restaurant/Shopping district. Rare find 2/2... \$799, 3/2... \$910! Plus one month free! Call TEAM LEASING (512)416-8333.

CENTRAL Ron Jon the Apartment Mon! Free Apt. Locating! Call 512-293-7443 ronjontheapartmentmon@hotmail.com

CENTRAL 360 VIEWS! hardwoods, yards, granite countertops. \$811+ Call today! Apartment Specialists, 512-241-1111, 800-791-0019, lease@aptsaus.com, agent.

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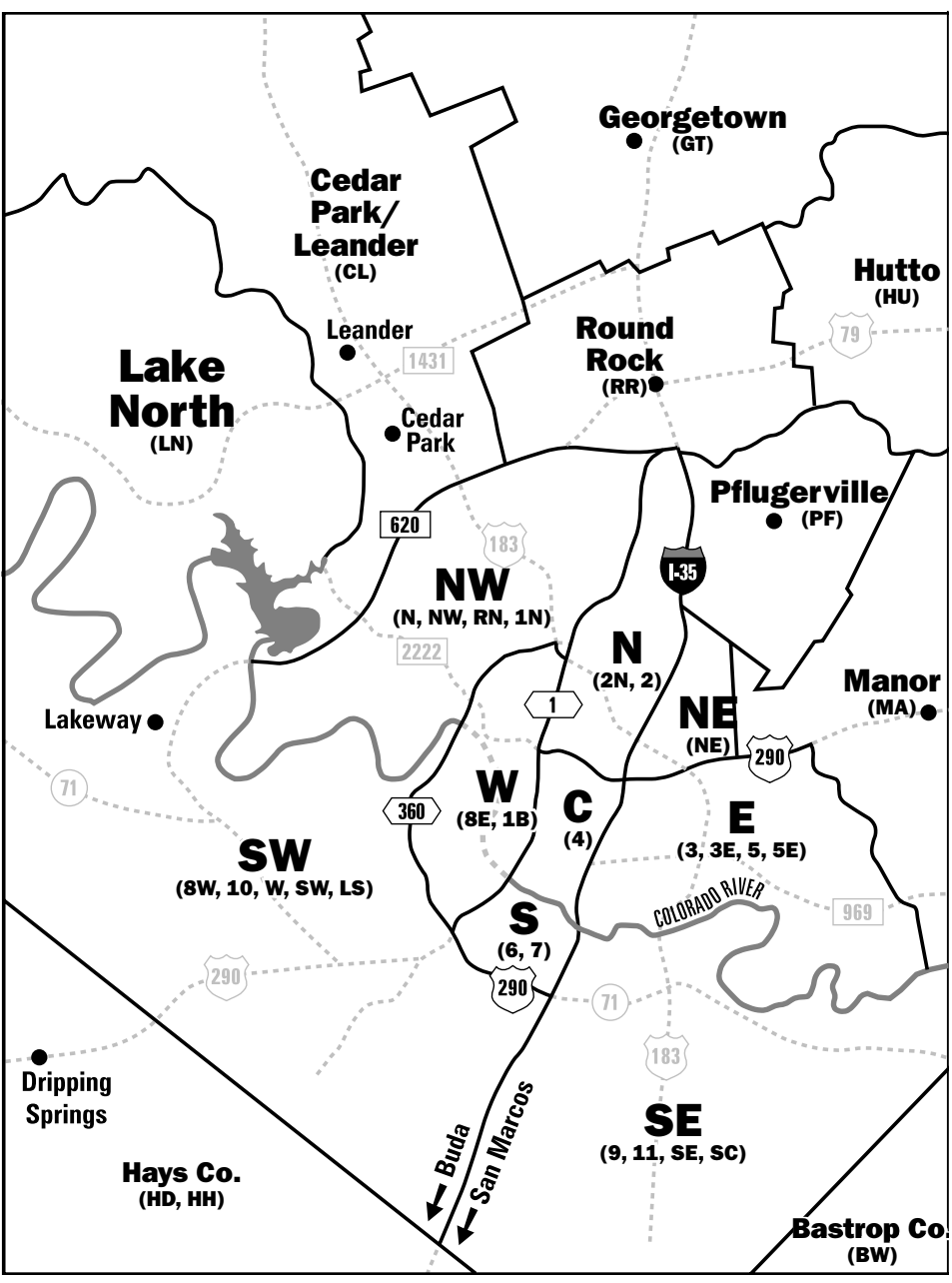
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78704

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CENTRAL http://austincool.com 693-7231 big dogs ok laid back artisan hangout \$475

CENTRAL http://austincool.com 693-7231 Greenbelt trail, Washer/D, Hip 78704 \$560



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CENTRAL 2020 Nueces. Just two blocks from Guadalupe! 1 Bedroom w/ Loft & Large Balcony, CACH, Walk-in Closet. Paid Water & Trash. Immed. Move-in. 451-0414.

CENTRAL Hidden South Central condo. W/D & cable included. Large private patios & fireplace. 1/1 \$575, 1,050 sq ft 2/2 \$775. APP 474-4900. http://www.bestaustinproperties.com

CENTRAL NELRAY PLACE CONDOS, 601 Nelray Place. 1/1 efficiency with high ceilings and skylights, top floor. All appliances incl stack W/D. Quiet complex with on-site management. \$625. George W. Hughes, RE/MAX DOWNTOWN AUSTIN, 512-940-4894

CENTRAL Hidden Travis Heights community on Greenbelt! 1BDRM, \$599. 2BD/2BA, perfect roommate plan, \$700. \$199 total move in! Nothing more to pay until March. Call Team Leasing 416-8333.

CENTRAL East 6th! New affordable! 1/1 \$440, 2br \$500, 3br \$563. Call today! Apartment Specialists, 512-241-1111, 800-791-0019, lease@aptsaus.com, agent.

CENTRAL Split level 1-1 by Zilker, S. Lamar. Small community. Tranquil tropical courtyard. Huge private patios, built in bookshelves. \$535. Mandy, agent 468-7891, austinapartmentsguide.com.

CENTRAL VIEWPOINT CONDOS, 700 South First. Completely remodeled 2/2 with Downtown Views. \$1650. George W. Hughes, RE/MAX DOWNTOWN AUSTIN, 512-940-4894.

CENTRAL Brand New Luxury, 1-1, \$440+, 2-2, \$513+, 3-2, \$653+, FREE AFTER-SCHOOL CARE! Citywide 835-RENT (835-7368) www.citywideapartmentlocator.com

CENTRAL http://austincool.com 693-7231 Cool loft walk dwtn, Whole Foods \$542

CENTRAL Desperate Hyde Park/Campus owners seek tenants. From \$450. LSL 326-5757.

CENTRAL http://austincool.com 693-7231 Dwn'tn loft experts, views, live a little!

CENTRAL \$99 deposit 1bd \$550 by St. Ed's W/D included. Call Melissa 210-313-236 or 472-91000 www.texasapt.com

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CENTRAL Ridgeway Gardens Apt. Now Open! Located at 1202 E. 51st St. Leasing newly renovated 1 bdr/1ba apts. Starting at \$425/mo. For info Call Lisa or Toni at 469-0925 or 206-4425.

CENTRAL Best 78704 deal! 1br \$535, 2br \$635 featuring lots of natural light, W/D conn, private patios. Lush landscaping. superb mgmt. APP 474-4900 http://www.bestaustinproperties.com

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South: 1 month free and \$400 off 1st full month; 1x1 @ \$500 and 2x2 @ \$600

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CONTINUED

215

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TOWNHOME

CENTRAL Mopac & 45th, central courtyards, pool. 1br \$550, 2 br \$725, 2 br TH \$825. 231-1400. agent

CENTRAL No Deposit/App. Creative floorplan featuring dry bar, private deck, W/D. Hidden and quiet! 1 BR from \$470 2BR \$700. APP 474-4900. <http://www.bestaustinproperties.com>

CENTRAL Cheap, Cheap, Cheap!!! \$325! <http://www.apartmentlocating.com> 692-4525

CENTRAL \$300 off 1st month! 1 block to Engineering! Spacious efficiency, CA/CH, 1 reserved parking space, outside storage, laundry on-site, very quiet neighbors! Cats welcome - NO dogs! No indoor smoking. Gas, water, garbage paid! \$550. 502 Elmwood #204. Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rollo 731-6799, rollo1tex@yahoo.com

CENTRAL <http://austincool.com> 693-7231 Dwnntn Soco cool studio, \$650 ABPeclectic interior. Nightlife at doorstep!

CENTRAL <http://austincool.com> 693-7231 Walk downtown, nightlife at doorstep, \$650

CENTRAL <http://austincool.com> 693-7231 Dwnntn modern 3 bdr, pool on lake, European kitchen, \$910 + month free

CENTRAL Barton Skyway 78704. Huge T/H with w/d \$725. [atxrelo.com](http://www.atxrelo.com) 444-0505

CENTRAL <http://austincool.com> 693-7231 #1 Downtown elegance, city views, rooftop deck, hardwoods, W/D, lofts

CENTRAL Best deal North Campus - take over lease through July 2006 on spacious 1/1 located 1 block from Engineering. Small, quiet property with gas & water paid and 1 reserved parking place. Cats welcome - NO dogs. No indoor smoking. Priced under market at \$525! 500 Elmwood #13. Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rollo 731-6799, rollo1tex@yahoo.com

CENTRAL 1/1, 750 sqft. cement & ceramic tile flrs, beautiful landscaping, patios & small yards, built in bookshelves, great shopping & easy access to Mopac/183. Near Justin Ln. \$120 dep. Starting @ \$550. 6710 Burnet. Tonia 467-9589 no app fee.

CENTRAL 1/1 750 sqft. Large kitchen & bath, walk-in closet & patio. Trash/water paid. Close to Mopac/2222 5626 Woodrow \$600/mo 470-1421

CENTRAL Park-Like Setting. 1/1 for \$585, 2/2 for \$980 [atxrelo.com](http://www.atxrelo.com) 444-0505

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CENTRAL 360 & 2222 fantastic views \$885 2bdrm. \$25 deposit 1/2 mo. Free April 825-6036 april_white@texasapt.com

CENTRAL \$200 OFF FIRST MONTH! Hyde Park Area Avail. NOW! Enjoy apartment living in a residential neighborhood. Close to eateries, grocery stores, sports/health centers. Walk/Bike/Bus to campus.

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EFF'S \$485 (central air)

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CENTRAL On 6th street, FREE gas/cable, wood floors, pets ok, 1bd \$595. Chris 236-1116. [avignonrealty.com](http://www.avignonrealty.com).

CENTRAL **HUGE DECKS!** **DOWNTOWN VIEWS!** Lots of Trees! Garden Tub! Great Prices Too! From \$399 2/1 \$637. LSL 326-5757.

CENTRAL 1/1 remodeled condo on the south lakeshore of downtown. No smokers, no pets. \$700. Call 443-5116.

CENTRAL 1/1 Zilker Loft \$605. S. Congress Loft \$565. 2/1.5 Travis Heights Townhome \$750 2/1.5 South Central Townhomes \$699. W/D connections

LSL, 326-5757.

CENTRAL New Year's Special \$300 off 1st month! Best Deal near Engineering/Law School. Cute efficiency garage apt. in small complex. Deck, laundry on-site, very quiet neighbors, 1 reserved parking space. Cats welcome - no dogs. No indoor smoking. \$575 ALL BILLS PAID! 504 Elmwood #210. Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rollo 731-6799, rollo1tex@yahoo.com

CENTRAL Downtown Loft \$625! 6th Street Studio \$575. Call Chris 577-7056 chris_puente@texasapt.com

CENTRAL Luxurious Downtown Apt! Walk to 6th St! Call for details-968-5400 Courtney

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1-1 only \$485 2 Bds starting \$725. Hardwoods in select units. Pets Welcome, on-site laundry, pool, gas heat/cook. 442-9333 / 888-583-9893 • or **ApartmentHeadquarters.com.**

CENTRAL Greystone 2 bdr townhome, fresh paint & new tile flooring, open living & kitchen. Separate dining area. Private courtyard. Close to Mopac. \$800/mo. Miriam, 431-8852.

EAST 2/2, 875sqft \$612, 3/2, 1089sqft \$749. \$299 total Jan move in, W/D connections. [atxrelo.com](http://www.atxrelo.com) 659-5339

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NORTH \$199 Total move-in! W/D in unit. Jr.1/1 \$395, 2/2 \$595. Near Dell. <http://www.apartmentlocating.com> 231-9888

NORTH Townlake Condo 1 bed \$600 \$99 special.

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NORTH Express Yourself! Sweet 2-2 only \$666! RR Schools. W/D connections. <http://www.apartmentlocating.com> 231-9888

NORTH Short-term RELO! 1month Free & \$50dep. 1-1 \$435, 2/2 \$640. <http://www.apartmentlocating.com> 231-9888

NORTH \$1300, Far West, 3/2 1350sqft, W/D conns, 24hr gym, club house, theatre. john@atxrelo.com 659-5339 10% rebate on 12 mo, lease

NORTH Close to Dell! Very spacious 1 bedroom \$535, large 2-2 \$710 both with washer/dryer inc. Apartment Experts 512-339-4411

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- 4th and Colorado, warehouse district flat, \$910

SOUTH CENTRAL

- Warehouse-style apartments, concrete floor, 1 bedroom \$519, 2 bedroom \$689, 4 bedroom \$999. Artist and musician friendly.
- Zilker Park on Hike & Bike Trail. Studio \$475, 1 bedroom, \$659. 2 bedroom, \$740 (large deck). 50ft. from entrance to trail.
- On Town Lake Hike and Bike Trail, 1 bedroom \$495, 2 bedroom \$595. Ceramic tile and free cable!
- Studio flat, Barton Springs/Lamar area, rare find ... \$480!
- Historic Travis Heights, 1 bedroom \$550, 2 bedroom \$650, \$99 Total Move In.

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North	Near Dell, gas paid, w/d con, 1Bd \$447, 2Bd \$564
Central	1Bd \$550, wood floors (\$25 extra)
South	Water, Gas, & Cable Paid! Eff \$480, 1Bd \$525, 2Bd \$645
South West	1Bd \$540, 2Bd \$640, 3Bd \$936, pool, Mopac Access

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1A - Serene Waterfront. Two creekfront lots offer privacy and extraordinary views. Updated 3BR 2.5BA with pool, hot tub. Dana Dean MLS5075321



1A - Hill Country Views. 3BR, 3BA with designer touches! Gourmet kitchen opens to family room with stone fireplace. \$464,500 Cindy Greenwood MLS6695442



1A - Beautifully Remodeled 3 or 4BR, 3BA, 3Liv. Gorgeous yard and pool. Added private master. \$349,500 Nancy McCarroll MLS8011599



1B - Fabulous new construction in Tarrytown. Craftsman-style 5BR, 4BA, 4Liv home with separate garage apartment. Francie Little MLS7569014



1B - Updated/remodeled 3BR, 3.5BA, 3Liv on ±½ acre. Stainless and granite in kitchen, large formal rooms. \$1,050,000. Anne Giles MLS8906237



1B - Unique home features central atrium, chef's kitchen with granite countertops and Viking range, renovated 2002. Nila Williams MLS5806784



1B - Tarrytown 4BR, 3.5BA with separate guest house. 4th BR/upstairs apartment with separate entry. Owner/Agent. \$895,000 Betty Kuykendall MLS6176284



1B - Duplex in the heart of West Austin. 2BR, 1BA, 1Liv, 1Din in both units. Lovely shade trees and sprinkler system. Prime location. Liz Newell MLS8196342



1B - Craftsman-style new construction. 3BR, 3BA + study/4th BR. Spacious living room, hardwoods, crown molding. \$495,000 Suzanne Pringle MLS6135981



1B - Old West Austin 3BR, 2BA, 2Liv craftsman bungalow with 2nd story addition. Fireplace and sunroom in master. \$425,000 Gail Cocke MLS6548398



1B - Attention Investors. Tri-plex in Old West Austin. 2BR, 1BA cottage, 1BR, 1BA garage apartment & efficiency. \$395,000 Gail Cocke MLS4298357



1B - West Campus Condo. Third level unit with good natural light, fireplace, balcony. 2BR, 2BA, all appliances. 2-Reserved garage spaces. Suzy Juncker MLS7925875



1N - 5BR, 3.5BA & 3Liv. Island kitchen open to family room with fireplace. Award-winning Round Rock Schools. \$399,900 Charlotte Lipscomb MLS7245828



1N - Stone one-story has wood & tile flooring, remodeled kitchen. Deck overlooks landscaped backyard. 4BR, 2BA. \$345,000 Kay Bieberdorf MLS9654283



2 - 2BR, 1BA 1940s house moved onto lot and completely remodeled 9/05. Gleaming wood floors, granite counters. \$145,000 Martha Small MLS4062578

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4 - Downtown living at luxurious Towers of Town Lake condos ranging from \$270,396 to \$464,400. City and lake views. Kay Andrews



4 - 2 Homes on 1 lot. Front house is 2BR, 1BA, wood floors, remodeled. Back house is 2BR, 1.5BA recently built. \$389,000 Mark F. Moore MLS9616023



4 - Remodeled Hyde Park home on huge lot. 2BR, 1BA. Artistic touches with wood & stained concrete floors, wall of bookcases. \$294,000 Suzanne Pringle MLS4114989



Area - Downtown hi rise living with Lake Austin view. 2BR, 2BA, open living/dining, huge kitchen. Wonderful. \$265,000 Joanne Senyk MLS6405808



8E - Limestone custom by Eppright Homes on cul-de-sac view lot in Davenport Ranch. 4BR, 4BA & 3Liv. \$847,900 Rebecca Freeman Popp MLS7645677



8E - Contemporary. Curved wall opens to open living. High ceilings and wall of glass doors to the private courtyard. \$775,000 Phyllis Cartwright MLS4464718



8W - 4BR, 4.5BA, 3Liv design built in 2003 with panoramic views on ±1.9 acres in Eanes ISD. Hardwood floors. \$699,800 Lilla Ezell MLS8665524



8W - Zen Contemporary stucco 1-story. Maple and granite floors, dramatic black kitchen, walls of glass. \$399,000 Dana Dean MLS3598301



LS - Un-compromised luxury at every turn in this dramatic Costa Bella Estate. Fabulous 7BR, 8.5BA, 7Liv. \$6,500,000 Cindy Greenwood MLS7128416



RN - Caslano on Lake Austin. ±4.75 Acre lot in a gated community with million \$ homes. \$220,000 Charlotte Lipscomb MLS9460174

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SOUTHEAST Large 2-2, \$699, WD Conns, UT shuttle, Big kitchen. 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

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SOUTHEAST Large 2-2.5, \$800, Townhome, WD, fenced yard, 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

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SOUTHWEST 2/2- 1025 sqft. \$725/month. W/D conns. \$300 off 1st month. ATX 587-5090 greg@atxrelo.com

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CENTRAL 1/1 Avail. March 1. UT and Hancock, private, off street parking, two story w/lofted BR, W/D, DW. Perfect for quiet student \$650. 784-0645 rent.tfcinfo.com

CENTRAL 1815 W. 36th St. 1/1, cute, updated, pristine, close to UT/Seton. Avail now. \$925/mo. Raquel 925.4582.

CENTRAL near DT/Lake, Remodeled 2BD/1BTH, all appliances, W/D, hardwoods, covered parking, \$995. 2001 Griswold SPM 478-5588 shamrockrentals@yahoo.com

CENTRAL 1706 A Elmurst, 2/1 duplex, \$725 new counter-tops, new carpet, near downtown and UT, 2 car carport, laundry room, 474-1470 Brad@beckandco.com Beck & Co.

CENTRAL Move in now, 3/1 hardwood floor in office (or third bedroom), fireplace, fenced yard, pets OK, 5 min to UT, Downtown, Hospitals and new Mueller Development. First month 1/2 off rent. Great neighborhood! Call Robert at 784-1428 or Pisua@sbcglobal.net to have pic's sent to you.

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CENTRAL EAST 2324 Santa Rita house, 3/2, great backyard, \$850/mo., \$400 dep, \$35 app fee, Call Terry, Realtor, 512-789-8064

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NORTH 11203 Bending Bough Trl - Unbelievably priced at \$129,900. One of the rare 4 bedroom homes in Quail Hollow. Just minutes to Loop 1, IH 35, 183. All floors have been re-done w/wood laminate flooring & hard tile. Recent paint in up to date colors, galley kitchen, large indoor utility room & two car garage. Great backyard, wonderful open floor plan & located on a quiet street. Call Lori Galloway, 633-3882. Mary Nell Garrison

NORTHEAST 1002 Warrington Drive \$124,900 3/2 Many updates including new roof & wood floors in lvg., entry&hall. French doors leading to awesome covered back deck. Julie Alexander 762.8211 Keller Williams www.teamalexander.com

NORTHEAST 3002 Fontana Drive 78704 offered at 205,000 3/1 with tile through out living dining & kitchen. Cute kitchen with tile backsplash and glass cabinets. Walking distance to St. Eds, Amy's and Penn Field. Call Julie Alexander, Keller Williams 512.762.8211 mobile www.teamalexander.com

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355 GENERAL

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Pet of the Week

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to YOUR HEALTH
by James Heffley, Ph.D.

Q. I recently bought a magnesium supplement in the form "magnesium taurate." Does this mean it includes taurine, and if so, is it any better than other magnesium supplements?

A. Magnesium taurate is a molecular complex containing both magnesium and taurine. Once inside the body, it will combine with water and separate into magnesium ions and taurine. Magnesium taurate may be a "match made in heaven" because taurine is used by the body to transport magnesium ions into and out of cells through the cell membranes. Balancing with the free calcium outside cells, magnesium works almost exclusively inside cells. By reducing the level of free calcium in our body, magnesium exerts tremendous influence on blood pressure and heart function, acting as a natural "calcium channel blocker." Magnesium taurate has considerable potential as a nutritional supplement, since both magnesium and taurine supplements improve a number of health conditions.

The importance of magnesium to health is well recognized (see "To Your Health," June 13, 2003). In adults the role of taurine appears to be determined by cell type, functioning differently in nerve cells, heart cells, liver cells, immune cells, pancreatic cells, kidney cells, or skin cells. The taurine content of the various tissues declines with age, though this decline can be halted with taurine supplements. Along with several other substances, taurine also has antioxidant properties.

Congestive heart failure depletes the heart muscle of a number of important nutrients, including taurine. A supplement combining several nutrients, taurine, magnesium, coenzyme Q-10, and carnitine, improves heart function and increases survival. The heart concentrates taurine and maintains taurine levels so that taurine alone makes up more than 50% of the heart's free amino acid pool.

As important as taurine is to adults, it is even more critical to the health of infants. Taurine was discovered in 1827, but its importance in infant nutrition was not appreciated for nearly 150 years. It was 1975 before it was found that babies fed a formula with added taurine maintained their urinary taurine levels as well as breast-fed infants. Taurine is especially important for infants because it plays an essential role in both eye and brain development, and although adults are able to make taurine, infants lack that ability. It is now considered an essential nutrient for premature babies and is beneficial through the first three months of life.

Taurine is unique among the amino acids in many ways. It is derived from two "normal" amino acids, methionine and cysteine, but it is not made into protein, as these and most other amino acids are. Rather it serves to regulate the function of many body systems, maintaining fluid balance and blood sugar level among its many tasks. It is chemically different in that it contains a "sulfonic acid" group in place of the "carboxylic acid" group found in most amino acids. Also, most amino acids are "alpha amino acids" while taurine is a "beta amino acid." Even though taurine is a maverick, toxicity is not a concern. No signs of toxicity have been indicated in animal studies, and as much as six grams daily is commonly used in clinical trials for treatment of the conditions that are helped by taurine supplements, although large taurine supplements can cause nausea if not taken with food.

James Heffley, Ph.D., is a certified clinical nutritionist. The information he provides is for educational use only. If you believe you have a medical problem, see your physician.

CONTINUED 355
GENERAL

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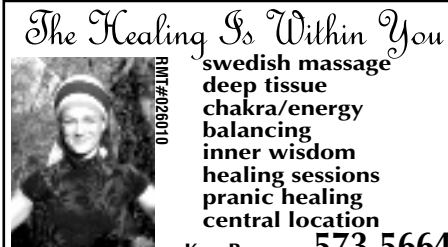
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545 LEGAL NOTICES

424536

**CONSTABLE'S
NOTICE OF SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 147th District Court of Travis County, on the 6th day of January, 2006 in a certain cause numbered 424536, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, City of Lago Vista and County Education District are plaintiffs, and Leon P. Templet, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Leon P. Templet are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$11,275.98** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 147th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on February 17, 2001.

I, on the 5th day of January, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 150, Lago Vista Country Club Estates, Section 1, Plat No. 38/22 as described in Volume 6212, Page 968 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be

made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$11,275.98** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 6th day of January, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

454759

**CONSTABLE'S
NOTICE OF SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 331st District Court of Travis County, on the 4th day of January, 2006 in a certain cause numbered 454759, wherein Travis County, Lake Travis Independent School District, Water Control Improvement District No. 17, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 6, Travis County Hospital District are plaintiffs, and Juan Ignacio Gueda, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Juan Ignacio Gueda, Ronald W. Hofer (In Rem Only), are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the following sums: **Tract 1: Billing Number 43620 = \$5,523.92** and **Tract 2: Billing Number 43685 = \$4,272.02** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 331st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on August 2, 2005.

I, on the 5th day of January, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Tract 1: Billing Number 43620

Lot 6, Block 9, Mountain View, Plat No. 4/243 as described in Volume 8413, Page 948 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas

Tract 2: Billing Number 43685

Lot 26, Block 12, Mountain View, Plat No. 4/243 as described in Volume 8459, Page 925 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for the following sums: **Tract 1: Billing Number 43620 = \$5,523.92** and **Tract 2: Billing Number 43685 = \$4,272.02** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 6th day of January, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

93-07199

**CONSTABLE'S
NOTICE OF SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 250th District Court of Travis County, on the 20th day of December, 2005 in a certain cause numbered 93-07199, wherein County Education District, Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and City of Lago Vista are plaintiffs, and John C. Koch, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of John C. Koch are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$7,646.64** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 250th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on February 3, 1999.

I, on the 27th day of December, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 2832, Lago Vista Country Club Estates, Section 10, Plat No. 48/84 as described in Volume 8035, Page 727 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$7,646.64** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of December, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS**
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF WALTER EARL WHITE, Deceased, No. 83542 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

BRUCE H. NEYLAND alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 10th day of JANUARY, 2006, an Application to Determine Heirship in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said WALTER EARL WHITE, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Court-house in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 10th day of JANUARY, 2006.
DANA DEBEAUVOIR
County Clerk
Travis County, Texas
P.O. Box 1748
Austin, Texas 78767
By Deputy: /s/ Alan Serrano

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS**
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF ANDREA ELKE FRANK, Deceased, No. 83591 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

SCOTT D. HECTOR alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 19th day of SEPTEMBER, 2005, an Application to Determine Heirship and for Appointment of Dependent Administrator in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said ANDREA ELKE FRANK, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Court-house in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 20th day of January, 2006.
DANA DEBEAUVOIR
County Clerk
Travis County, Texas
P.O. Box 1748
Austin, Texas 78767
By Deputy: /s/ Alan Serrano

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS**
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF JOSE CARDONA, Deceased, No. 83732 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

NORMA CARDONA alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 18th day of JANUARY, 2006, an Application to Determine Heirship in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said JOSE CARDONA, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Court-house in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 18th day of January, 2006.
DANA DEBEAUVOIR
County Clerk
Travis County, Texas
P.O. Box 1748
Austin, Texas 78767
By Deputy: /s/ Alan Serrano

GV-200083

**CONSTABLE'S
NOTICE OF SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 200th District Court of Travis County, on the 4th day of January, 2006 in a certain cause numbered GV-200083, wherein Del Valle Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 are plaintiffs, and Bernice M. Carlile, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Bernice M. Carlile, Edmond L. Carlile, David C. Litsinger (In Rem Only), Rebecca A. Litsinger (In Rem Only) and The Austin National Bank nka First American Bank SSB (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the following sums: **Tract 1: Billing Number 148261 = \$1,500.17 and Tract 2: Billing Number 148260 = \$3,846.44** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 200th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on May 5, 2004.

I, on the 5th day of January, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Tract 1: Billing Number 148261

Lot 134, River Timber, Plat No. 60/4 as described in Volume 5000, Page 2300 and Probate Cause No. 41,172 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas

Tract 2: Billing Number 148260

Lot 133, River Timber, Plat No. 60/4 as described in Volume 5000, Page 2300 and Probate Cause No. 41,172 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for the following sums: **Tract 1: Billing Number 148261 = \$1,500.17 and Tract 2: Billing Number 148260 = \$3,846.44** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 6th day of January, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

By /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-203315

**CONSTABLE'S
NOTICE OF SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 345th District Court of Travis County, on the 3rd day of January, 2006 in a certain cause numbered GV-203315, wherein Austin Independent School District, Austin Community College, Travis County and City of Austin are plaintiffs, and Roberta Dougherty, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Roberta Dougherty, Vanderbuilt Mortgage & Finance (In Rem Only), CMH Homes, Inc. dba Clayton Homes # 151 (In Rem Only), City of Austin (In Rem Only) and Betty Foster aka Betty Rhymes Conner aka Betty Rhymes (In Rem Only) Dougherty, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Betty Foster aka Betty Rhymes Conner aka Betty Rhymes are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$6,974.20** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 345th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 19, 2004.

I, on the 5th day of January, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 8, Block 6, Kincheon Subdivision No. 1, Plat No. 5/115 as described in Volume 7828, Page 397 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$6,974.20** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 6th day of January, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

By /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-204136

**CONSTABLE'S
NOTICE OF SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 353rd District Court of Travis County, on the 20th day of December, 2005 in a certain cause numbered GV-204136, wherein Lake Travis Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 6 and Water Control Improvement District No. 17 are plaintiffs, and Betty S. Moorehead aka Betty S. Moorehead Murry aka Betty S. Parker aka Betty Sue Worline, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Betty S. Moorehead aka Betty S. Moorehead Murry aka Betty S. Parker aka Betty Sue Worline, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (In Rem Only) and United States of America (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$3,419.87** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 353rd District Court of Travis County, Texas, on June 24, 2004.

I, on the 27th day of December, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 10, Block 12, Mountain View Subdivision, Plat No. 4/243 as described in Volume 5245, Page 1483 and Volume 5524, Page 498 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$3,419.87** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of December, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

By /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-204252

**CONSTABLE'S
NOTICE OF SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 345th District Court of Travis County, on the 21st day of December, 2005 in a certain cause numbered GV-204252, wherein Austin Independent School District, Austin Community College, City of Austin and Travis County are plaintiffs, and Nell Jackson, Michael Cusimano (In Rem Only), Edward

Mitschke (In Rem Only) and City of Austin (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$2,906.07** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 345th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on March 24, 2004.

I, on the 27th day of December, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 1, Block 26, A.K. Black Subdivision No. 2, Plat No. 4/185 as described in Volume 12632, Page 859 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$2,906.07** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of December, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

By /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$3,038.09** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 53rd District Court of Travis County, Texas, on September 26, 2003.

GV-204317

**CONSTABLE'S
NOTICE OF SALE**

REAL PROPERTY

DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 53rd District Court of Travis County, on the 20th day of December, 2005 in a certain cause numbered GV-204317, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County and Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 are plaintiffs, and Heriberto Ramos Gonzalez and Carmen Salas De Ramos are

defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$3,038.09** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 53rd District Court of Travis County, Texas, on September 26, 2003.

I, on the 27th day of December, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 26037, Highland Lake Estates, Section 26 Amended, Plat No. 68/23, Travis County, Texas and being more particularly described in Volume 7566, Page 359 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$3,038.09** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of December, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

By /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

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GV-204319

**CONSTABLE'S
NOTICE OF SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 126th District Court of Travis County, on the 20th day of December, 2005 in a certain cause numbered GV-204319, wherein Lake Travis Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 6 and Water Control Improvement District No. 17 are plaintiffs, and Lester Dell Drake are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$3,931.51** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 126th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on November 7, 2003.

I, on the 27th day of December, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and

will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 714, Apache Shores, Section 3 Amended, Plat NO. 50/81, Travis County, Texas and being more particularly described in Volume 8748, Page 775 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$3,931.51** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of December, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

By /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED,

the **COMMON LAW**
by **Luke Ellis**

The material in this column is for informational purposes only. It does not constitute, nor is it a substitute for, legal advice. For advice on your specific facts and circumstances, consult a licensed attorney.

**DOS AND DON'TS OF
COURTROOM CONDUCT**

I'm going to be a witness in a small-claims court case in a few weeks. I've never been in court before – is there anything I should or shouldn't do when I'm in court?

For people who have never appeared in court, a trip to the courthouse to go before a judge or jury can be a nerve-wracking experience. Many people that I know including previous clients, trial witnesses, friends, and family have expressed reservations about what to do and how to act when they finally arrive at court.

Most jurisdictions promulgate rules of courtroom conduct that are supposed to inform people what to expect and how to conduct themselves in court. The problem is many people don't even know these rules exist.

In Travis County, local rule 16.3 sets out the general rules of courtroom conduct. The Travis County rule states that in courtrooms, there shall be no tobacco used, no chewing gum is allowed (by either a witness or an attorney), no reading newspapers or magazines, no beverages (other than court water pitchers and cups), no food, no propping of feet on tables or chairs, and no noise or talking that interferes with the court proceedings.

Basically, anything you do that could distract from the proceedings will be frowned upon by the court, even if it isn't expressly prohibited by the local rules. For example, enter and exit the courtroom without lots of fanfare. Try not to carry on conversations while the court proceedings are going on, and if you do, keep your voice as quiet as possible. Also, don't forget to turn off your cell phones – as a general rule judges absolutely hate it when cell phones go off during a court proceeding.

And what happens if you forget all this on your way into court? Don't worry, just listen to the judge's instructions at the beginning of the proceeding and, most importantly, use common sense.

Please submit column suggestions, questions, and comments to thecommonlaw@austinchronicle.com. Submission of potential topics does not create an attorney-client relationship, and any information submitted is subject to being included in future columns.

INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-300084

CONSTABLE'S
NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 261st District Court of Travis County, on the 21st day of December, 2005 in a

certain cause numbered GV-300084, wherein Austin Independent School District, City of Austin, Austin Community College and Travis County are plaintiffs, and Robert C. Nichols, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Robert C. Nichols, City of Austin (In Rem Only), State of Texas/Bond Forfeiture Section (In Rem Only) and United States of America (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$5,215.27** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 261st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on February 3, 2004.

I, on the 27th day of December, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 10, Block G, Onion Creek Forest, Section 2 Amended, Plat No. 68/54 as described in Volume 11497, Page 65 and Probate Cause No. 70390 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

AV0209 POUND SALE

NOTICE OF SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES IMPOUNDED BY ORDER OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 683.011 ET SEQ., TEXAS TRANSPORTATION CODE, REGULATING THE IMPOUNDING AND SALE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES BY DELEGATE OR PERSONALLY.

THE PURCHASER SHALL TAKE TITLE TO THE MOTOR VEHICLE FREE AND CLEAR OF ALL LIENS AND CLAIMS OF OWNERSHIP AND IS ENTITLED TO REGISTER THE PURCHASED MOTOR VEHICLE AND RECEIVE A CERTIFICATE OF TITLE.

I WILL PROCEED TO SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH IN THE CITY OF AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED MOTOR VEHICLES WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN REDEEMED BY THE OWNERS, THEREOF TO WIT;

**FEBRUARY 9, 2006 @ 10:00 AM
@ AUSTIN POLICE DEPT., 220 RALPH ABLANEDO,
AUSTIN, TX 78748**

- | | | | | | | | |
|-----|------------|------|------|-----|---------|----|--------------------|
| 1. | 065003401 | 1986 | PONT | 2DR | 713YTV | TX | 1G2JD2703G7593658 |
| 2. | 065002137 | 1985 | FORD | PK | 3GMLL92 | TX | 1FTEX15N0FKB53275 |
| 3. | 065002986 | 1976 | PONT | 4DR | K03NXR | TX | 2L69N6X149050 |
| 4. | 065002267 | 1992 | PLYM | VN | D03HXT | TX | 1P4GH44R5NX294027 |
| 5. | 065002352 | 1984 | BUIC | SW | H02XFD | TX | 1G4AV35Y4EX442179 |
| 6. | 065003358 | 1988 | HOND | 2DR | 992UXM | TX | JHMD9367JS014058 |
| 7. | 065003403 | 1984 | HOND | 2DR | B85GPZ | TX | JHMA5321EC091111 |
| 8. | 065002984 | 1977 | CHEV | PK | RJ6131 | TX | CCL447F437673 |
| 9. | 065003025 | 1982 | OLDS | 4DR | 603BNG | TX | 1G3AN69Y2CM205513 |
| 10. | 065002142 | 1990 | CADI | 2DR | H27HDS | TX | 1G6EL1332LU610913 |
| 11. | 065003236 | 1985 | MAZD | 2DR | MFT76J | TX | JM1FB3315J0862357 |
| 12. | 065003023 | 1992 | DODG | VN | L32TPX | TX | 1B4GH44R8NX247673 |
| 13. | 065003011 | 1986 | BMW | 2DR | SPIN | WI | WBAAB5404G9675522 |
| 14. | 065002270A | 1977 | PONT | 4DR | R66HRX | TX | 2L69U17109658 |
| 15. | 065002270B | 1986 | MERC | CP | W94DPC | TX | 1MEBP9231GH640552 |
| 16. | 065002141 | 1995 | JEEP | LL | N24RLH | TX | 1J4FT27S0SL562965 |
| 17. | 065002989 | 1993 | MERC | 2DR | KR279F | TX | 1MEPM6273PH628397 |
| 18. | 065002254 | 1984 | CADI | 2DR | K54GRX | TX | 1GGAL5789EE660829 |
| 19. | 065003239 | 1984 | OLDS | 2DR | S28PMY | TX | 1G3AN69Y7EX422086 |
| 20. | 060110825 | 1992 | MAZD | 4DR | V09KKT | TX | JM1H04611N0105264 |
| 21. | 065002263 | 1990 | HOND | 4DR | B13NDC | TX | JHMCB7650LC099309 |
| 22. | 065002258 | 1979 | BUIC | 2DR | Z23GMS | TX | 4J47A9H146361 |
| 23. | 065002363 | 2000 | FORD | LL | H28HFN | TX | 1FMYU60X2YUJA12495 |
| 24. | 065003024 | 1996 | FORD | 4DR | T92VBT | TX | 2FALP71W0TX176420 |
| 25. | 065003002 | 1976 | HOND | 2DR | L82TRL | TX | SBC4118779 |
| 26. | 065002990 | 1988 | MERC | 4DR | D84AZL | TX | 2MEBMY75J3JX605537 |
| 27. | 065003408 | 1996 | CHRY | 4DR | Y97ZBJ | TX | 2C3HD56T5TH130270 |
| 28. | 065002132 | 1996 | FORD | SW | FM6602 | PA | 1FALP57U5TA146106 |
| 29. | 065002992 | 1993 | PONT | 4DR | K22KWB | TX | 1G2NE5435PC749205 |
| 30. | 065003362 | 1992 | GEO | 2DR | P56LRG | TX | J81RF2362ZN7550599 |
| 31. | 065003355 | 1990 | MAZD | VN | N83NPV | TX | JM3LV5227L0208740 |
| 32. | 065003354 | 1996 | PLYM | 4DR | WKD44G | TX | 1P3ES27C6TD654428 |
| 33. | 065002039 | 1981 | DATS | 2DR | RH211D | TX | JN1HZ04S1BX256035 |
| 34. | 065002140 | 1992 | CHEV | PK | 7GBD4A | TX | 1GCHC33KONJ353106 |
| 35. | 065002135 | 1996 | FORD | 4DR | 503FWP | TX | 1FALP52UXTA152605 |

made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$5,215.27** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of December, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-301797

CONSTABLE'S
NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 250th District Court of Travis County, on the 20th day of December, 2005 in a certain cause numbered GV-301797, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County and Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 are plaintiffs, and Patsy B. Lynn are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$2,527.04** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 250th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on December 3, 2004.

I, on the 27th day of December, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 5100, Highland Lake Estates, Section 5, Plat No. 51/75, Travis County, Texas and being more particularly described in Volume 12332, Page 218 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the

above described judgment for **\$2,527.04** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of December, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY

LIENS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-301927

CONSTABLE'S
NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 53rd District Court of Travis County, on the 20th day of December, 2005 in a certain cause numbered GV-301927, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County and Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 are plaintiffs, and Christine Mierendorf, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Christine Mierendorf, Debra A. Benton aka Debra A. Snyder, Jeffery R. Mierendorf, James I. Mierendorf, Thomas E. Mierendorf, Holly Mierendorf aka Holly Picon and Timothy Mierendorf are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$4,708.66** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 53rd District Court of Travis County, Texas, on November 19, 2004.

I, on the 27th day of December, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 797, Country Club Estates, Section 5, Plat No. 47/41 as described in Volume 10471, Page 490 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$4,708.66** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of December, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-302352

CONSTABLE'S
NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 53rd District Court of Travis County, on the 3rd day of January, 2006 in a certain cause numbered GV-302352, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent

School District, Travis County and Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 are plaintiffs, and Otto K. Weaver, Trustee of the Otto K. Weaver Trust (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$2,682.31** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 53rd District Court of Travis County, Texas, on April 2, 2004.

I, on the 5th day of January, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 1023, Lago Vista Estates, Section 4, Plat No. 47/71, Travis County, Texas and being more particularly described in Volume 5254, Page 2191, Probate Cause No. 46,994 and Volume 11271, Page 177 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$2,682.31** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 6th day of January, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-303564

CONSTABLE'S
NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 250th District Court of Travis County, on the 3rd day of January, 2006 in a certain cause numbered GV-303564, wherein Lake Travis Independent School District, County Education District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 6, Travis County Farm to Market Road and Water Control Improvement District No. 17 and City of Austin are plaintiffs, and Mary Allison Talley Lorimer, Helen Katherine Talley and Anne Drusilla Talley Morris are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$5,481.84** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 250th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on September 24, 2004.

I, on the 5th day of January, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property,

levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 583, Apache Shores, Section 2, Plat No. 48/58 as described in Volume 8013, Page 321 and Probate Cause No. 55,623 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$5,481.84** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 6th day of January, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-303615

CONSTABLE'S
NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 345th District Court of Travis County, on the 21st day of December, 2005 in a certain cause numbered GV-303615, wherein Lake Travis Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 6, County Education District, Travis County Farm to Market Road and Water Control Improvement District No. 17 are plaintiffs, and Jon L. Vanleer, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Jon L. Vanleer are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$6,775.92** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 345th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 26, 2004.

I, on the 27th day of December, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 54, Cardinal Hills Estates, Unit 15, Plat No. 52/13 as described in Volume 4378, Page 900 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$6,775.92** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of December, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-402159

CONSTABLE'S
NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 250th District Court of Travis County, on the 20th day of December, 2005 in a certain cause numbered GV-402159, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 are plaintiffs, and Robert Burns Ritchey are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$2,822.19** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 250th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 19, 2004.

I, on the 27th day of December, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 201, Lago Vista Country Club Estates, Section 1, Plat No. 38/22 as described in Volume 6623, Page 1047, Cause No. 314,194, Volume 7621, Page 224 and Volume 10790, Page 1 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$2,822.19** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of December, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

LEGAL NOTICES

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE accepts LEGAL NOTICES at the low rate of \$21 per column inch.

Notarized affidavits of publication and audited circulation statements are provided upon request.

Call Jessica @ 512-454-5765 ext. 168 for more info.

NO. 83,645

GUARDIANSHIP OF JERRY HAINEY, AN INCAPACITATED PERSON

IN THE PROBATE COURT NO. ONE OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Published Notice to Creditors
Notice is hereby given that Letters of Guardianship for the Person and Estate of JERRY HAINEY, An Incapacitated Person, were issued on October 14, 2005 in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas to FAMILY ELDERCARE, INC. as Guardian of the Person and Estate.

The office of Guardian is in Travis County, Texas, and the mailing address is: Family Eldercare, Inc., Guardian of Jerry Hainey, 2210 Hancock Drive, Austin, Texas 78756.

All persons having claims against this estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

SIGNED on the 20th day of January, 2006.

Christine P. Larson
Attorney for Guardian
State Bar No.:11956500
2210 Hancock Drive
Austin, Texas 78756
Telephone (512) 450-0844
Facsimile (512) 459-6436

NO. 83,765

GUARDIANSHIP OF DOROTHY HAMBY, AN INCAPACITATED PERSON

IN THE PROBATE COURT NO. ONE OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Published Notice to Creditors
Notice is hereby given that Letters of Guardianship for the Person and Estate of DOROTHY HAMBY, An Incapacitated Person, were issued on January 12, 2006 in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas to FAMILY ELDERCARE, INC. as Guardian of the Person and Estate.

The office of Guardian is in Travis County, Texas, and the mailing address is: Family Eldercare, Inc., Guardian of Dorothy Hamby, 2210 Hancock Drive, Austin, Texas 78756.

All persons having claims against this estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

SIGNED on the 20th day of January, 2006.

Christine P. Larson
Attorney for Guardian
State Bar No.:11956500
2210 Hancock Drive
Austin, Texas 78756
Telephone (512) 450-0844
Facsimile (512) 459-6436

NO. 84100 IN THE

ESTATE OF MARGARET EIDMAN RHODES, DECEASED

IN THE PROBATE COURT NO. 1

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for the estate of MARGARET EIDMAN RHODES, DECEASED, were issued on January 18, 2006, in Cause Number 84100, pending in the Probate Court No. 1, TRAVIS County, Texas, to: ARTHUR E. RHODES, Jr.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

ARTHUR E. RHODES, Jr.
6101 Gena Court
Austin, Travis County, Texas 78757

Dated the 18th day of January, 2006.

contact Laurie Salvador, Ex-
ecutrix of the Estate of Kath-
ryn Margaret Bremness at (250)
655-6555 or by email,
laurie@salvador-davis.com.

NOTICE

**OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
IFB NUMBER: B060091-RV**

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids to provide **Security Upgrades at the Travis County Courthouse, Medical Examiner's Office and Ned Granger Building** located in Austin, Texas, will be received by Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, at the **Travis County Purchasing Office, 314 West 11th Street, 4th Floor, Suite 400, Austin, TX 78701 until 1:00 P.M., CST, FEBRUARY 15, 2006**, then publicly opened and read aloud. **Note: The Time-Date Stamp Clock located at the front counter of the Travis County Purchasing Office, will serve as the OFFICIAL CLOCK for the purpose of verifying the date and time of receipt of bids.**

Copies of plans and specifications may be obtained from the **TRAVIS COUNTY PURCHASING OFFICE**. A refundable deposit of **\$25.00**. In the form of a cashier's check, money order, or company check payable to "Travis County" will be required for each set of bid documents that is issued. **The deposit will be refunded if the drawings and specifications are returned in good condition within 21 calendar days of the bid opening.** Copies of plans and specifications may be viewed free of charge in the Travis County Purchasing Office. In addition, plans and specifications will be made available for viewing free of charge at various Austin-area Plan Rooms indicated in Exhibit 1.

AN OPTIONAL PRE-BID CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON AT 11:00 A.M., CST, FEBRUARY 1, 2006 AT THE TRAVIS COUNTY PURCHASING OFFICE, 314 WEST 11th STREET, SUITE 400, AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701.

A bid security in the amount of five percent (5%) of the total bid amount will be required. Payments will be made for completed work in progressive payments with the County retaining five percent (5%) of each payment until final acceptance of the project. Payments will be made by check. A Payment Bond is required in the amount of one-hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount, if the contract amount exceeds \$25,000. A Performance Bond is required in the amount of one-hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount, if the contract amount exceeds \$100,000. Bidder should use lump sum pricing.

Historically Underutilized Businesses including Contractors, Subcontractors, and Suppliers are encouraged to participate in this project consistent with the goals of the Commissioners Court. Contractors will be required to comply with all applicable Equal Employment Opportunity laws and regulations, all Federal, State, and local regulations for construction safety and health standards.

The successful bidder must commence work upon issuance by County of a written Notice to Proceed. The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive an informality in the bids received. Bids may not be withdrawn for ninety (90) calendar days after the date on which they are opened.

NOTICE

**OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
IFB NUMBER: B060102-MB**

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids for the Gardner Betts Detention Shell Build Out, a project consisting of all necessary labor, tools, materials and equipment necessary for the interior finish out and remodeling of 2 buildings at the Gardner Betts Juvenile Justice Center, located at 2515 S. Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas, will be received by Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, at the **Travis County Purchasing Office, 314 West 11th Street, 4th Floor, Suite 400, Austin, TX 78701 until 2:00 P.M., CST, FEBRUARY 15, 2006**, then publicly opened and read aloud. **Note: The Time-Date Stamp Clock located at the front counter of the Travis County Purchasing Office, will serve as the OFFICIAL CLOCK**

327-3135, or C Faulkner, Ex-
ecutrix of the Estate of Kath-
ryn Margaret Bremness at (250)
655-6555 or by email,
laurie@salvador-davis.com.

Sealed bid proposals are due @
Austin Canyon Corp by no later
than 2:00 p.m., Thurs, February
15, 2006. All contractors must
submit a Contractor's
Qualification Statement by no
later than February 9, 2006.

**NOTICE OF ABANDONED
VEHICLES** Pursuant to the
Texas abandoned vehicle motor
act, the following vehicles will
be auctioned off by the Travis
County Sheriff's Office unless
charges are satisfied within 10
days.

1. 1993 Ford Tempo Lic#
N34GLX VIN#
2FAPX362PB107940
2. 1995 Chevrolet Beretta Lic#
R46DHY VIN#
1G1LV15MXXS281608
3. 2005 other/other, no plates,
VIN# STR11FFA010890
4. 1998 Ford Escort, Lic#
ZBH90D VIN#
3FALP1133WR135110
5. 1988 Pontiac Grand Am LE
Lic# C38XKB VIN#
1G2NV54U7JC18327
6. 2005 BMW 3 Series, Lic#
R58PVM, VIN# 16126616
7. 1979 Ford Explorer, unknown
lic#, unknown VIN
8. 1998 Ford Mustang, Lic#
B78NCX, VIN#
1FAFP4043WF171014
9. 2003 Ford Expedition, Lic#
V78RLR, VIN#
1FMPU15L83LC10503
10. 1997 Ford Escort, Lic#
940CRH, VIN#
1FALP13P6VW388367
11. 1985 BMW other, Lic#
VRN61D, VIN#
WBADCC1408F0651233
12. 1993 Ford Taurus, Lic#
P20DVS, VIN#
1FALP5240PA214728
13. 1994 Dodge Shadow, Lic#
K35FKF, VIN#
1B3AP24DXRN194319
14. 1994 Chrysler Concorde,
Lic# P9GBTR, VIN#
2C3EL56T1RH151924
15. 1998 Buick Skylark custom,
Lic# C72XPW, VIN#
1G4J511K0JK409668
16. 1999 Geo Metro, Lic#
UKL097 (KY)
2C1MR2221X6713621
17. 1988 Ford Escort, Lic#
G14RPN, VIN#
1FAPP9198JW362724
18. 1989 Toyota Corolla, Lic#
416XCR, VIN#
1NKA9E2EK0Z014734
19. 1991 Geo Metro LS Lic#
NWH89S, VIN#
2C1MR468M6M789937
20. 1989 Plymouth other, Lic#
X57FBB (OK),
1P3BA46K8KF428632
21. 1988 Honda Accord, no
plates (NC)
1HGCA5630JA136957
22. 1995 Ford Contour, Lic#
MET4946 (OH) VIN#
1FALP66LXSK185569
23. 1989 Chevrolet Corsica, Lic#
L24MTR, VIN#
1G1LT5414KE296398
24. 1997 Chevrolet Malibu, Lic#
YD213N, VIN#
1G1ND52M3VY126569
25. 1980 Cadillac Deville, Lic#
406BXG, VIN# 6D476A9178942
26. 1998 Ford Escort, Lic#
H39SSJ, VIN#
1FAFP10PXXW162383
27. 1990 Buick Regal custom,
Lic# X26CWC, VIN#
2G4WB14T5L1407198
28. 1997 Chevrolet Malibu, Lic#
YJ849N, VIN#
1G1ND52M5VY135922
29. 1993 Saturn other, Lic#
2DGD79 (MI), VIN#
1G8ZH594PZ319454
30. 1989 Toyota Camry, Lic#
K38DTR, VIN#
JT2VW22E9K0040035

A bid security in the amount of
five percent (5%) of the total bid
amount will be required.
Payments will be made for
completed work in progressive
payments with the County
retaining five percent (5%) of
each payment until final
acceptance of the project.
Payments will be made by
check. A Payment Bond is
required in the amount of one-
hundred percent (100%) of the
contract amount, if the contract
amount exceeds \$25,000. A
Performance Bond is required
in the amount of one-hundred
percent (100%) of the contract
amount, if the contract amount
exceeds \$100,000. Bidder should
use lump sum pricing.

Historically Underutilized
Businesses including Con-
tractors, Subcontractors, and
Suppliers are encouraged to
participate in this project
consistent with the goals of the
Commissioners Court.
Contractors will be required to
comply with all applicable Equal
Employment Opportunity laws
and regulations, all Federal,
State, and local regulations for
construction safety and health
standards.

The successful bidder must
commence work upon issuance
by County of a written Notice to
Proceed. The County reserves
the right to reject any and all
bids and to waive an informality
in the bids received. Bids may
not be withdrawn for ninety (90)
calendar days after the date on
which they are opened.

NOTICE

**OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE
TO BIDDERS**

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
Notice is hereby given that
sealed bids will be accepted by
Travis County for the following
items:

1. Concrete & Grout Mix, IFB
B060079-RG
- Opens: February 6, 2006 @ 2:00
p.m.
2. Native Harvest Seeding and
Planting Services, IFB B060101-
DR
- Opens: February 13, 2006 @
10:00 a.m.
- Bids should be submitted to:
Cyd Grimes, Travis County
Purchasing Agent, Ned Granger
Building, 314 West 11th, Room
400 P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas
78767. Specifications can be ob-
tained from or viewed at the
Travis County Purchasing Office
at no charge or by downloading
a copy from our website:
www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp.

Bidders should use unit pricing
or lump sum pricing, if
appropriate. Payments may be
made by check. The successful
bidder shall be required to
furnish a Performance Bond in
the amount of One Hundred
percent (100%) of the contract
amount awarded, if applicable.

**NOTICE - OFFICIAL PUBLIC
NOTICE TO BIDDERS, TRA-
VIS COUNTY, TEXAS**

Notice is hereby given that
Austin Canyon Corp is soliciting
sealed bid proposals for
drainage, water & wastewater
improvements for the Longhorn
Canyon project in Steiner Ranch
@ 2601 N Quinlan Park Rd,
Travis Cty, TX in strict
accordance w/ plans & specs
prepared by C Faulkner
Engineering, available at Austin
Canyon Corp, 5806 Mesa Dr.
#260, Austin, TX 78731, PH/512-

day of January, 2006.

**NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS
HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST
THE ESTATE OF JOSEPH W.
FRUGA** Notice is hereby given
that original Letters
Testamentary for the Estate of
Joseph W. Fruga, Deceased,
were issued on January 18,
2006, in Cause No. 84,053,
pending in the Probate Court
Number One of Travis County,
Texas, to the estate's
independent executor without
bond, Lucy A. Vaughan Fruga.
All persons having claims
against the estate currently
being administered are required
to present them within the time
required by law. Claims should
be addressed in care of the
representative's attorney, Law-
rence A. Russell, 9951 Anderson
Mill Road, Suite 200, Austin,
Texas 78750. Dated this 18th
day of January, 2006.

**NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS
HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST
THE ESTATE OF DAVID
CURTIS JESSIE, DECEASED**
Notice is hereby given that
original Letters Testamentary for
the Estate of David Curtis
Jessie, deceased, were issued
on January 24, 2006, in Cause
No. 84126 pending in the Travis
County Probate Court No. 1,
Travis County, Texas to William
Raymond Campbell as
Independent Executor. The
residence of the Independent
Executor is in Travis County,
Texas. The post office address
for claims is:
Estate of David Curtis Jessie
Gilman & Associates, P.C. 1411
West Avenue, Suite 100
Austin, TX 78701

All persons having claims
against this Estate which is
currently being administered are
required to present them within
the time and in the manner
prescribed by law.
Dated: January 24, 2006
Gilman & Associates, P.C.
1411 West Avenue, Suite 100
Austin, TX 78701
Attorneys for the Executor

**NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS
HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST
THE ESTATE OF JAMES
WATSON YANCY, JR., DE-
CEASED** Notice is hereby given
that the original letters
testamentary for the estate of
James Watson Yancy, Jr.,
deceased, were issued on
January 18, 2006, in Cause No.
83942 which is being ad-
ministered in Probate Court No.
1 of Travis County, Texas to
Barbara Yancy Haultanen as
independent executor.
All persons having claims
against this estate are required
to present them within the time
and in the manner prescribed by
law in care of the independent
executor's attorney at the
following address: D'Ana H.
Mikeska, McGinnis, Lochridge &
Kilgore, L.L.P., 919 Congress
Avenue, Suite 1300, Austin,
Texas 78701.

**NOTICE TO CRAIG JOHN
SCHMIDT** You have been
identified as the biological fa-
ther or possible biological father
of William John Dizunno, a
Caucasian male child who
Bradley Clark intends to adopt
in approximately February, 2006.
William John Dizunno was
conceived on or about April 5,
2000 in Omaha, Nebraska and
was born on January 5, 2001.

You have the right to 1) deny
paternity; 2) waive any parental
rights you may have; 3)
relinquish and consent to
adoption; or 4) file a notice of
intent to claim paternity and
obtain custody within five
business days of the birth of the
child or within five business
days of this notice, whichever is
later, pursuant to Nebraska law,
Section 43-104.02.

In order to deny paternity, waive
your parental rights, relinquish
and consent to adoption or
receive additional information to
determine whether you are the
father of William John Dizunno,
you must contact the below des-
ignated attorney. If you wish to
seek custody of the child, you
must seek legal counsel from
your own attorney immediately.
Julie A. Frank, Frank & Grypa
P.C., L.L.O., 201 Historic Library
Plaza, 1823 Harney Street,
Omaha, NE 68102, Telephone
(402) 346-0874.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that
original Letters Testamentary for
the Estate of Meta L. Vreugde,
Deceased, were issued on
January 4, 2006, in Docket No.
84,047, pending in the Probate

Court No. One (1) of Travis
County, Texas, to: R. Brenton
Smith

The residence of the Inde-
pendent Executrix is in Wil-
liamson County, Texas, and the
post office address is:
R. Brenton Smith
Independent Executor, Estate of
Meta L. Vreugde, Deceased
2111 Sam Bass Road, Suite A-
700
Round Rock, Texas 78681
All persons having claims
against this Estate which is
currently being administered are
required to present them within
the time and in the manner
prescribed by law.
Dated: January 5, 2006.
/s/ John McC. Witherspoon
Attorney for the Estate

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that
original Letters Testamentary for
the Estate of MARGARET
ELIZABETH WELLS, Deceased,
were issued on January 18, 2006
in Cause No. 84082, pending in
the Probate Court No. 1, Travis
County, Texas to Terry Edward
Wells.

All persons having claims
against this Estate which is
currently being administered are
required to present them within
the time and in the manner
prescribed by law to Terry Wells,
Robert D. Wilkes, 4408
Spicewood Springs Rd., Austin,
Texas 78759.
DATED the 18th day of January,
2006.
By: Robert D. Wilkes,
Attorney for the Estate

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that
original Letters of Adminis-
tration for the Estate of Cecil W.
Henson, Deceased, were issued
on January 18, 2006, in Cause
No. 84059, pending in the
Probate Court No. 1, Travis
County, Texas, to:
Linda S. Covington.

All persons having claims
against this Estate which is
currently being administered are
required to present them to the
undersigned within the time and
in the manner prescribed by law.
c/o: Linda S. Covington,
Independent Administratrix
3707 Hawkshead Dr.
Austin, Texas 78727

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that
original Letters of Adminis-
tration for the Estate of Bill
Lawrence Marshall, Deceased,
were issued on January 13,
2006, under Docket No. 83593,
pending in Probate Court
Number One of Travis County,
Texas, to
Willie Esther Marshall.

Claims may be presented in
care of the attorney for the
estate, addressed as follows:
Willie Esther Marshall,
Representative, Estate of Bill
Lawrence Marshall, Deceased
c/o Anne C.M. Wood
1002 West Avenue
Austin, Texas 78701

All persons having claims
against this estate, which is
currently being administered,
are required to present them
within the time and in the
manner prescribed by law.
Dated January 24, 2006.

The Law Office of Anne C.M.
Wood
1002 West Avenue
Austin, Texas 78701
By /s/ Anne C.M. Wood,
Attorney for Applicant

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that
original Letters of Adminis-
tration for the Estate of

Yolanda Rangel a/k/a Judy H.
Rangel, Deceased, were issued
on December 20, 2005, under
Docket No. 83624, pending in
the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis
County, Texas, to Robert F.
Rangel.

Claims may be presented in
care of the attorney for the
estate, addressed as follows:
Representative, Attorney Mary
Sanchez
Estate of Yolanda Rangel aka
Judy H. Rangel, Deceased
c/o Law Office of Mary Sanchez
1611 E. Cesar Chavez
Austin, Texas 78702
All persons having claims
against this estate, which is
currently being administered,
are required to present them

within the time and in the
manner prescribed by law.
Dated January 19, 2006.

**LAW OFFICE OF MARY SAN-
CHEZ**
/s/ Mary Sanchez
State Bar No. 17570830
1611 East Cesar Chavez St.
Austin, Texas 78702
512/474-0030
Facsimile: 512/474-0031
Attorney for Applicant

NOTICE TO CREDITORS On
January 24, 2006, Helen A.
Daniel was appointed Inde-
pendent Executor of the Estate
of Delphus Kidwell, Deceased,
in Cause No. 84091, pending in
the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis
County, Texas. The address of
Independent Executor is c/o An-
drew C. Friedmann, Attorney &
Counselor at Law, 4408
Spicewood Springs Road,
Austin, Texas 78759, and all
persons having claims against
this estate are required to
present them to such address in
the manner and time required
by law.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that
Letters of Administration With
Will Annexed for the Estate of
Walter Earl White, Deceased,
were issued on January 10,
2006, in Cause No. 83542
pending in Probate Court No. 1,
Travis County, Texas, to Bruce H.
Neyland.

Claims may be presented in
care of the attorney for the
Estate, addressed as follows:
Bruce H. Neyland, Adminis-
trator, Estate of Walter Earl
White, 14350 Northbrook Dr.,
Suite 150
San Antonio, Texas 78232

All persons having claims
against this Estate, which is
currently being administered,
are required to present them
within the time and in the
manner prescribed by law.
Dated: January 18, 2006

PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE
HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY
21, 2006 AT 9:00 A.M. AT THE
TRAVIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COURTROOM, 314 W. 11TH ST.,
AUSTIN, TEXAS TO RECEIVE
COMMENTS FROM THE
PUBLIC REGARDING A
PETITION FOR THE CREATION
OF AN EMERGENCY SERVICES
DISTRICT #13 IN THE PART OF
NORTHEAST TRAVIS COUNTY
THAT IS NOT CURRENTLY
SERVED BY ANOTHER
DISTRICT.

THE DISTRICT IS TO BE
CREATED AND IS TO BE OP-
ERATED UNDER ARTICLE 111,
SECTION 48-E, OF THE TEXAS
CONSTITUTION, AS
PROPOSED BY S.J.R. NO. 27,
ACTS OF THE 70TH LEG-
ISLATURE, REGULAR SES-
SION, 1987, AND ADOPTED BY
THE VOTERS AT AN ELECTION
HELD NOVEMBER 3, 1987.

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS
ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE
HEARING ON THE CREATION
OF THE DISTRICT AND
PRESENT GROUNDS FOR OR
AGAINST THE CREATION OF
THE DISTRICT.

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFOR-
MATION YOU MAY CON-
TACT:**

**DANA DEBEAUVOIR
TRAVIS COUNTY CLERK
5501 AIRPORT BLVD.
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78751
854-4996
OR
JUDGE SAMUEL T. BISCOE
TRAVIS COUNTY JUDGE
314 W. 11TH ST.
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701
854-9555**

**PUBLISHED NOTICE TO
CREDITORS** Notice is hereby
given that Letters Testamentary
for the Estate of SHERMAN
LIVINGSTON were issued on
January 9, 2006 in Docket
Number 84035, pending in the
Probate No. One, Travis County,
Texas to LEO WILDER,
Independent Executor of Los
Angeles, California. The resident
agent is Mike Tolleson, whose
address is 2106 E. Martin Luther
King Blvd., Austin, Texas 78702.
All persons having claims
against this Estate are required
to present their claims to the
foregoing address within the
time and in the manner
prescribed by law.
DATED January 24, 2006
S/ Leo Wilder, Independent

Executor of the Estate of
SHERMAN LIVINGSTON

X95-01694

**CONSTABLE'S
NOTICE OF SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of
Sale issued by the clerk of the
345th District Court of Travis
County, on the 3rd day of
January, 2006 in a certain cause
numbered X95-01694, wherein
Austin Independent School
District, City of Austin, Travis
County and Austin Community
College are plaintiffs, and
Edward L. Hankey and City of
Austin (In Rem Only) are
defendant(s), in favor of said
plaintiffs, for the sum of
\$5,762.68 Dollars, together with
all costs of suit, that being the
amount of judgment recovered
by the said plaintiffs, in the
345th District Court of Travis
County, Texas, on March 4, 1996.

I, on the 5th day of January,
2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have
levied upon, and will, on the 7th
day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'
clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe
in the City of Austin, within legal
hours, proceed to sell for cash to
the highest bidder, all the rights,
title and interest of defendants
in and to the following
described property, levied upon
as the property of defendants,
to-wit:

**Being all that certain Lot 6,
Block E, Cherryland, Section
5, Plat No. 19-144, Travis
County, Texas and being more
particularly described in that
certain deed of record in
Volume 8518, Page 164 of the
deed records of Travis County,
Texas.**

THE ABOVE SALE to be made
by me to satisfy the above
described judgment for
\$5,762.68 Dollars in favor of
plaintiffs, together with the
costs of said suit, and the
proceeds applied to the sat-
isfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 6th day of
January, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD,
THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES,
EXPRESS OR IMPLIED,
INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED
TO, THE IMPLIED WAR-
RANTIES OF MERCHANT-
ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR
A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU
BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS".
BIDDERS ARE FURTHER
ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF
THE PROPERTY AT THIS
EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT
EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR
SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE
PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY
PURCHASING WHATEVER
INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS
IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU
HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU
NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL
OF YOUR CHOICE.

I, on the 5th day of January,
2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have
levied upon, and will, on the 7th
day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'
clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe
in the City of Austin, within legal
hours, proceed to sell for cash to
the highest bidder, all the rights,
title and interest of defendants
in and to the following
described property, levied upon
as the property of defendants,
to-wit:

X95-05133

**CONSTABLE'S
NOTICE OF SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of
Sale issued by the clerk of the
261st District Court of Travis
County, on the 4th day of
January, 2006 in a certain cause
numbered X95-05133, wherein
City of Austin, County Education
District, Austin Community
College, Travis County and
Austin Independent School
District are plaintiffs, and John
Crawford, Jr., if alive and if
deceased, the unknown owners,
heirs, assigns and successors of
the Estate of John Crawford, Jr.
and City of Austin (In Rem Only)
are defendant(s), in favor of said
plaintiffs, for the sum of
\$4,601.21 Dollars, together with
all costs of suit, that being the
amount of judgment recovered
by the said plaintiffs, in the
261st District Court of Travis
County, Texas, on September 30,
1997.

I, on the 5th day of January,
2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have
levied upon, and will, on the 7th
day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'
clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe
in the City of Austin, within legal
hours, proceed to sell for cash to
the highest bidder, all the rights,
title and interest of defendants
in and to the following
described property, levied upon
as the property of defendants,
to-wit:

**Lot 3, Kings Land, Plat No.
9/123A as described in Volume
9135, Page 745 of the deed
records of Travis County,
Texas.**

THE ABOVE SALE to be made
by me to satisfy the above
described judgment for
\$4,601.21 Dollars in favor of
plaintiffs, together with the
costs of said suit, and the
proceeds applied to the sat-
isfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 6th day of
January, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD,
THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES,
EXPRESS OR IMPLIED,
INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED
TO, THE IMPLIED WAR-
RANTIES OF MERCHANT-
ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR
A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU
BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS".
BIDDERS ARE FURTHER
ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF
THE PROPERTY AT THIS
EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT
EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR
SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE
PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY
PURCHASING WHATEVER
INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS
IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU
HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU
NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL
OF YOUR CHOICE.

X95-10309

**CONSTABLE'S
NOTICE OF SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of
Sale issued by the clerk of the
261st District Court of Travis
County, on the 4th day of
January, 2006 in a certain cause
numbered X95-10309, wherein
Travis County, City of Lago Vista,
Lago Vista Independent School
District and Travis County
Emergency Services District No.
1 are plaintiffs, and Billy O. Ga-
nong and Patricia A. Ganong are
defendant(s), in favor of said
plaintiffs, for the sum of
\$3,929.08 Dollars, together with
all costs of suit, that being the
amount of judgment recovered
by the said plaintiffs, in the
261st District Court of Travis
County, Texas, on August 1,
1997.

I, on the 5th day of January,
2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have
levied upon, and will, on the 7th
day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'
clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe
in the City of Austin, within legal
hours, proceed to sell for cash to
the highest bidder, all the rights,
title and interest of defendants
in and to the following
described property, levied upon
as the property of defendants,
to-wit:

**Lot 1350, Country Club Es-
tates, Section 7, Plat No. 47/42
as described in Volume 7383,
Page 209 of the deed records
of Travis County, Texas.**

THE ABOVE SALE to be made
by me to satisfy the above
described judgment for
\$3,929.08 Dollars in favor of
plaintiffs, together with the
costs of said suit, and the
proceeds applied to the sat-
isfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 6th day of
January, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

TO BRAKE, OR NOT TO BRAKE

Dear Tom and Ray:

Years ago, I read in the newspaper that you should not set your parking brake if there is snow on the ground or a freeze warning in the area, because the brake pads could freeze to the wheels. My uncle thinks I'm crazy for believing such a thing. He says there is no way for a metal or ceramic brake pad to freeze to a metal wheel. Which of us is correct?

—Justin

RAY: Well, fortunately for family harmony, Justin, we can say you're both right.

TOM: Your uncle is right that there's no way the brake pads can freeze to the rotor and keep the car from moving. But the cables that operate the parking brake can – and do – freeze.

RAY: In a lot of cars, the cables run under the car and are attached to levers that actuate the caliper, or the brake drum. And under certain wintry conditions, snow or slush can cover the levers or get inside the cable sheaths, and then freeze overnight. Then when you try to release the brake in the morning, the brake handle in the car moves, but the parking brake doesn't.

TOM: So, when you're driving in slushy conditions, with a chance of a freeze overnight, you'd be wise to park your car on a flat surface and avoid using the parking brake that night.

RAY: But you don't want to make a habit of that, because there's another kind of freezing that happens. That's freezing due to rust. If a parking brake goes unused for a long period of time, rust can build up in the cables or on the levers. And then when you need the parking brake, it just won't move.

TOM: So, our advice is to make a habit of using the parking brake all the time – except when there's wet snow or slush on the ground and the temperatures might drop below freezing. In those instances, we recommend not using the parking brake and then calling in sick the next day, so you can stay home and watch your car to make sure it doesn't roll away.

* * *

Tom and Ray offer a strategy for everyone who's shopping for a car. Find yours in their pamphlet "Should I Buy, Lease, or Steal My Next Car?" Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Next Car, PO Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

* * *

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk Web site at www.cartalk.com.

Tune in to *Car Talk* each Saturday at 9am on



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LEGAL NOTICES

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

X95-11692

**CONSTABLE'S
NOTICE OF SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 261st District Court of Travis County, on the 20th day of December, 2005 in a certain cause numbered X95-11692, wherein City of Austin, County Education District, Austin Community College, Travis County and Austin Independent School District are plaintiffs, and Mary B. McDonald, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Mary B. McDonald and City of Austin (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$15,297.04** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 261st District

Court of Travis County, Texas, on January 14, 1998.

I, on the 27th day of December, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 10, Block 2, Chernosky Subdivision No. 9 (Olit. 21, Div. B), Plat No. 4/190 as described in Volume 11073, Page 118 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$15,297.04** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of December, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

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X95-12736

**CONSTABLE'S
NOTICE OF SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 126th District Court of Travis County, on the 6th day of January, 2006 in a certain cause numbered X95-12736, wherein Travis County, Austin Independent School District, City of Austin, Austin Community College and County Education District are plaintiffs, and Moriah Mitchell, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Moriah Mitchell, Lewis Mitchell, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Lewis Mitchell, Ida Mitchell, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Ida Mitchell, Chesta Mitchell King, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Alicia Swan, John L. McNeil, Laura N. Morris, Eddie J. Hill, Drosie M. Brown, Billy J. Royston, Janette L. Swan, Janie L. Royston, City of Austin (In Rem Only), Dr. B.E. Harrison (In Rem Only), Members Insurance Company (In Rem Only) and Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$5,118.55** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 126th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on August 15, 1996.

Witness my hand this 27th day of December, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

I, on the 5th day of January, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 7, Block 2, St. John's College Addition, Plat No. 4/71 as described in Volume 682, Page 203, Volume 3775, Page 1841, Volume 3775, Page 1847 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$5,118.55** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 6th day of January, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

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X96-04902

**CONSTABLE'S
NOTICE OF SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of

Sale issued by the clerk of the 250th District Court of Travis County, on the 20th day of December, 2005 in a certain cause numbered X96-04902, wherein Austin Independent School District, City of Austin, Travis County and Austin Community College are plaintiffs, and Erick Grant, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Erick Grant and City of Austin (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$8,672.70** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 250th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on June 22, 1999.

I, on the 27th day of December, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 8, Block 1, Chernosky Subdivision No. 4 (Olit. 29, Div. B), Plat No. 4/107 as described in Volume 10992, Page 21 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$8,672.70** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of December, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

X96-11931

**CONSTABLE'S
NOTICE OF SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 126th District Court of Travis County, on the 20th day of December, 2005 in a certain cause numbered X96-11931, wherein Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, Travis County and City of Austin are plaintiffs, and Howard McCarther, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Howard McCarther, Rosetta McCarther, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Rosetta McCarther and City of Austin (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$10,124.49** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 126th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on July 31, 2002.

I, on the 27th day of December, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights,

title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 17, Block 2, Chernosky Subdivision No. 4, Plat No. 4/107 as described in Volume 2206, Page 427 (SAVE AND EXCEPT the north 5' as described in Volume 5052, Page 2112) of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$10,124.49** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of December, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

X96-13169

**CONSTABLE'S
NOTICE OF SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 250th District Court of Travis County, on the 4th day of January, 2006 in a certain cause numbered X96-13169, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and City of Lago Vista are plaintiffs, and Douglas Robert Rucker, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Douglas Robert Rucker are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$7,864.75** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 250th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on December 2, 1999.

I, on the 5th day of January, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 12154, Highland Lake Estates, Section 12 Amended, Plat No. 54/35 as described in Volume 12287, Page 1325 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$7,864.75** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 6th day of February, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

X99-01031

**CONSTABLE'S
NOTICE OF SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 98th District Court of Travis County, on the 5th day of January, 2006 in a certain cause numbered X99-01031, wherein Austin Independent School District, City of Austin, Travis County, Austin Community College, Travis County FM Road, State of Texas and County Education District are plaintiffs, and Lucinda Harris, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Lucinda Harris and City of Austin (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$14,022.01** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 98th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on June 27, 2000.

I, on the 5th day of January, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

50' by 259.5' out of Outline 22, Division B as described in Volume 3065, Page 1295 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$14,022.01** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 6th day of January, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

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Free will ASTROLOGY

by Rob Breznsky for Jan. 29 to Feb. 4

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18): Marie and Pierre Curie discovered radium. Chemist John Walker invented the match. Physicist Wilhelm Roentgen was the first person to find out about X-rays. What do these great minds have in common? They all refused to take out any patents in connection with their innovations, believing that they shouldn't make any profit on something that rightfully belongs to everyone. They're your role models right now, Aquarius. Let them inspire you to give away your brilliance for free. (P.s. I probably shouldn't tell you this, but there'll be a big reward for you if you do what I suggest.)

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20): You've entered the most shadowy and enigmatic phase of your astrological cycle, which is why I think you're about to have a lot of interesting fun. You should look forward to your travels in the abyss with exuberant anticipation. Here are some guidelines to help you get the most out of the coming days. 1) Do the things that are hardest to do, but do them gladly and with grace, as if they were a great privilege. 2) Stay in intimate connection with your dark side, but don't let that turn into an endorsement of your dark side's fantasies. 3) Brainstorm about how to disarm and neutralize your adversaries without fighting them.

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): I don't take drugs or alcohol, but I love to get high. Astrologer Caroline Casey states my belief perfectly when she says that we all need regular doses of vastness. So how do I crack open the doors of perception? Engaging in extreme horseplay is one way. Recently, for instance, three friends and I radically altered our consciousness in the middle of a cold night on the sidewalks of New York City's Chelsea district. Oblivious to the taxis roaring by, we drove ourselves cheerfully insane as we did Appalachian square dances, channeled slapstick imitations of dead comedians Lenny Bruce and Bill Hicks, and taught each other chaotic meditation techniques we'd learned from various fake shamans. I urge you to be inspired by this example, Aries. You're overdue for a dose of vastness that's unleashed by raucous fun.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20): Taurus philosopher Bertrand Russell gave this testimony about what motivated him: "Three passions, simple but overwhelmingly strong, have governed my life: the longing for love, the search for knowledge, and an unbearable pity for the suffering of humanity." To be in maximum alignment with cosmic rhythms, Taurus, I suggest that you boil down your desires to a slightly altered version of Russell's: a longing to both give and receive love, a hunger for knowledge, and a yearning to alleviate the suffering of your fellow humans.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20): Only about 20% of the population is capable of deriving the full benefit of my horoscopes. That's because most people don't speak the language of metaphor, which is a staple of my writing. Luckily, you're among the minority that appreciates the symbolic approach to communication, and so you'll be able to use the following oracle: *You can't possibly defeat or outmaneuver the ogre who's monopolizing the treasure you covet. If you're smart, you'll realize that you should transfer your longing to a different treasure.*

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22): Physics instructor David Willey can safely walk barefoot across fields of broken glass. He can also dip his fingers into vats of molten lead and lie sandwiched between two beds of nails without incurring injury. There's no magic involved, he says. He relies solely on his understanding of science. Metaphorically speaking, these are the kinds of feats you'll be able to pull off in the coming week, Cancerian. Like Willey, you shouldn't depend on guesswork or luck. Do as he has done, which is research the laws of nature and use them to accomplish seemingly impossible tricks.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22): The federal government of the United States has been dominated by right-wingers for years. But an opposite trend is now sweeping through the other America. Leftist leaders have recently come into power in Bolivia, Brazil, Venezuela, Argentina, and Uruguay. This bears a certain resemblance to an adjustment that will soon be taking place in your life. Wherever you have become too one-sided, the other side will begin exerting a strong counterpoint. If any of your beliefs have become too dogmatic or unilateral, evidence will pour in to shake up your certainty. Don't worry: This is a good and healthy thing. You'll feel more flexible and free when the revolution comes.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22): *The New York Times'* Deborah Solomon interviewed Peter Watson, author of *Ideas: A History of Thought and Invention, From Fire to Freud*. "What is the single worst idea in history?" she asked him. "Without question, ethical monotheism," he replied. "The idea of one true god. The idea that our life and ethical conduct on earth determines how we will go in the next world. This has been responsible for most of the wars and bigotry in history." Personally, I disagree with his curious assessment. I think history's most terrible idea is the theory that some groups of people are smarter and better and deserve more rights than others. The coming week is a good time for you to meditate on these themes, Virgo. Which ideas do you consider bad ones, both those on a global scale and those that have at one time or another infected your belief system? (P.s. It's also a perfect moment to fight those bad ideas.)

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22): I was meditating on your horoscope as I rode my bike up a trail to the top of a hill. "Give me a sign," I asked the great mysterious intelligence known as nature. "Bless me with a symbol that will illuminate Libra's imminent future." My request was soon answered. I came upon a bare oak tree in whose low-hanging branches was nestled a radio-controlled toy airplane. Why was it there? Its flight path had obviously gone astray, but it didn't seem damaged. There was no one in sight. Why had its operator abandoned it? Here's how I interpreted the omen's meaning for you and your life, Libra: You experienced a minor glitch while engaged in some amusing activity, and that caused you to give up on the fun prematurely. It's time to go back and solve the problem, then resume your enjoyment.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21): "At the innermost core of all loneliness is a deep and powerful yearning for union with one's lost self," wrote Irish playwright Brendan Francis Behan. Let these words serve as your guiding light in the coming weeks, Scorpio. They should inspire you to be brave enough to confront the feelings of isolation that fester in your depths. That will in turn motivate you to reconnect with the parts of your psyche you were cut off from during times of trauma and unconsciousness in the past.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21): Professor Robert Crease asked physicists to name the 10 most beautiful experiments of all time. The winners were elegant and simple. They required minimal apparatus, few or no assistants, and little computational power. One was Galileo's legendary proof of the nature of gravity, in which he dropped two objects of different weights from the Leaning Tower of Pisa. Another was the brainchild of Isaac Newton, who used a prism to decompose sunlight into a spectrum of hues. I invite you to be inspired by the spirit of these beautiful experiments, Sagittarius. Come up with a lucid, ingenious hypothesis that will help you gather useful data about a question that's crucial for you to explore.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19): Right before Christmas, the U.S. Senate passed a bill that slashed funding for student loans, child care, and health benefits for the elderly and poor. Vice-President Dick Cheney aborted his trip abroad in order to race home and cast the tie-breaking vote. I suggest that you regard the 51 Scrooges who committed this sin as your anti-role models in the coming days, Capricorn. You can't afford to be anything but generous to the deprived and disadvantaged – including the underprivileged parts of your own psyche that you sometimes neglect.

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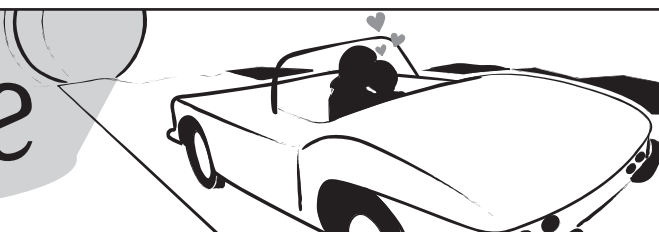
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Self-exiled from the date-rama scene for a number of years but now ready for a social life. I'm cute, spontaneous, liberal feminist. U're engaging, enlightened renaissance man. **lah_dee_dah**, 45, #115555

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I'm new to the area and I'm looking for a friend first, then wherever it goes! I enjoy having fun, dining out, gourmet cooking, movies and good conversation. **greeneyes**, 49, #115452

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NOT YOUR ORDINARY

Most of you should move on. looking for overeducated, older guy lonely and sex-deprived. I'm clever, good at conversation, way too smart for my own good, you should be too. **centexnerdgal**, 46, #115436

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Hi my name is Dennis am a nice guy and sweet and a good heart well am looking for some one that sweet and nice and kind and loveing. **jetrod66**, 39, #115587

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im new in austin .im looking for the honest girl and spend the best time toghter. **jilali**, 31, #115584

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STAR-KAVING MAD

i'm laid back, very intellectual, creative, and an overall nice guy. i'm looking for someone i can talk to and learn from, and fall in love with? maybe. **avenue-Blues**, 18, #115545

GONE NOT FORGOTTEN

Wandering around Austin, need a travel mate. MUST be quick at making good ideas about life and roads! **philostudy**, 23, #115534

DEPRESSED NEEDING COMFORT

just got back to texas from the state of missouri where my babys mom ran off with my kid.hopeing to enjoy being home. **babyslim**, 19, #115525

SEEKING A MUSE

Quirky responsible artist looking for a muse and friend. I love creating beautiful images and amazing food. I dig camping, hiking and exploring magical places. Love conquers all! **nomad**, 31, #115514

YOUNG SEXY JEDI

looking for a fellow jedi to share my "passion." **tharp1**, 21, #115398

LOVE ME

Affectionate, open,nice, young? hispanic male 31. nw Austin area , part-time colg, do photography work too. Short dark hair, brown hazel eyes. Long eyes ashes, very good sense of humor. **d78654**, 32, #115438

NICEARTSYXDANCERXREAL

faithful companion looking for someone not scared to be silly but I do have a serious side. **Niceguy**, 27, #115424

GREAT NATIVE AUSTINITE

The Pitch Eh , I seek people to get out & about with to experience all of austin & the surrounding areas because it has SO much to offer. **austexan**, 39, #101295

women SEEKING women

SEEKING PROF WOMAN

I'm a 34yr old lesbian looking to make friends and possibly more with the right person. I'm an easy going person who loves to be outdoors with my dog. **austingal34**, 34, #115527

TINKERBELL

Outgoing young woman...loves to be cared for, loves to make people laugh. I enjoy watching movies, and playing board games. I am looking for someone who shares the same. **mrsghammel**, 21, #115494

LOOKING FOR FUN

Looking for a girl who'll make me laugh while exploring the city. **Texasgirl418**, 21, #115485

KRAZIE

Pierced and Tatooed, looking to meet new people friends. just chilled out people like myself. **krazie**, 29, #115366

men SEEKING men

WANNA WRESTLE ?

5'9", 177lbs, 32 waist,in-shape,some muscle seeks similar for wrestling, workout, sweat. Nice Guy-Decent(u b 2)-Access to Mat Room-Friends Where-house or new 10x10 blue mats-my house-N.W. Austin. NO RUG BURNS! **Wrestle**, 45, #115568

UFFDA

I can be shy, quiet, introverted. When I relax with someone I am funny, giving, and adventurous. I'm looking for that person who can unfuddy my duddy. **erich2071**, 54, #115432

ON THE MARKET

I am an honest professional person looking for the same. If your life revolves around the gym and the

HELP FIND NATHAN/TIEGUY

help! Nathan swept me off my feet with his charm and confidence on NYE at Molotov. He's in Houston but from Austin, ~25,tall,slender,gorgeous,for ward,unforgettable; lemme know how to reach him -Lynn When: Sunday, Jan. 1. Where: Molotov on New Year's Eve. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900251

BURNING OUTTA CONTROL...

Need a fireman! Jamie from Thorndale... Saw you at TownLake a year ago, almost had cardiac arrest! Can't seem to run into you again...would love to see you... no burn ban here! When: Friday, October 15, 2004. Where: Town Lake Trail. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900250

JESSICA

we played pool along with your friends Christy and Annie. I am the "high guy" with the smelly pizza. Like to meet for coffee? When: Saturday, Jan. 21. Where: South Lamar. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900249

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clubs, we would not connect. Give me something better to do! **ronintex**, 55, #115402

NIIU

GBM 6,0 185 34yrs Attractive. Short black hair dark brown eyes. Told I do have a nice smile. I like to cook/bake, sing/dance, travel/read, movies/theater, hiking/camping. Looking for a W/H/M. **bes1971**, 34, #115399

JUST friends

NEGLECTED?LETME PLEASE&PAMPERU

Sexy & well trained boy toy wants to share his time, travels, and well taught skills with a under pampered mature gift-giving woman. No animosity and no drama. **atx1ofakind**, 30, #115570

SWEET DESIGNER

I'm a single gal in Northeast Austin, looking for someone to share my adventures. I like to cook, visit museums, take photos and see the eccentric/quirky side of Austin. **tlydesigns**, 26, #115309

NOT SO AVERAGE

So, I'm not perfect, but, I tell lame jokes that will make you laugh when you're down. If I won a million dollars, I would buy shoes for underprivileged children. **dapo2004**, 19, #115285

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a Shot in the Dark

LOOKING FOR LOU

I met you again over a year ago and you are all the time in my mind and my heart. I miss you, a lot... When: Thursday, March 17. Where: St Patrick's day. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900261

RHINESTONE SHADESCHEAP SUNGLASSES

1/24/06 Pretty brunette w/rhinestone shades, pigtails, charming smile, silver Florida 350Z; Me: cheap sunglasses, straw Stetson, grey Caddy-passed repeatedly between Houston and Austin 290W. Beer? Ride in your convertible/ my Caddy? When: Tuesday, Jan. 24. Where: 290. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900259

DUMPED AT SIDEBAR

You, incredible Asian girl defending guy who dumped you at Side Bar at friend's birthday party.Me, thinking guy's an IDIOT. Let me lick your wounds? When: Thursday, Jan. 19. Where: The Side Bar. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900258

ATT:LOVEBOATCAPT75

You winked at me on match.com, you may have e-mailed me, i am confused by your profile though, contact me if still interested. When: Thursday, Jan. 19. Where: match.com. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900257

SIDEBARBEAUTIFUL VIETNAMESE?GIRL

Seen you multiple times at Side Bar,Regular?Rasp Stoli/Soda,Amstel Light?Beautiful Vietnamese(?) Girl, red streaks in her hair.You give me red streaks in my heart.Me: Sunday, Jan. 22. Where: The Side Bar. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900256

SYRIANA

Ambling across the theater during Syriaana you fainted cold before you reached the door. I wanted the nerve to get your number but an ambulance took you away too soon. When: Monday, Jan. 16. Where: Syriaana. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900255

OFF THE GRID:

I saw you frying nopales with an acetyle torch under the MKL bridge. My freezer's stocked with sides of bacon. Wanna survive nuclear meltdown off the grid together? When: Wednesday, Jan. 11. Where: MKL & I-35. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900254

MODERN-DAY JAMES DEAN

09/11/04:Met you on a 6th Street patio through Jackie(?). Fallen for you everyday since. You:chivalric, handsome, 5'11". Me:cute, punny, and such a lucky girl! Accepting applications for a Spring Princess? When: Saturday, September 11, 2004. Where: 6th and Trinity. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900253

MARY KATHERINE, ...

... with a K. Jackson, salsa, Danko; tell me more, I'm curious. Care to hang out without your posse? T When: Wednesday, Jan. 18. Where: Opal Divine's. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900252

messages

CHARLIE ES FELIZ comer los cacahuetes otra vez.XOXOXO. I <3 PNut

CHRISTINE - THE whole relationship was based upon YOUR needs. You lost a GREAT guy. "M"

DEAREST CLYDE,PINK FLOYD sucks. Via con Dios, mi Amor... Bonnie

GHOST OF A Pickle Tree:a million miles away-but still haunting me.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY BIGG ! I miss you! -lizzle

HEY CAZZ, HAPPY 25th on the 24th wherever you are. my # is the same, peace. bcw

I HOPE WE don't have the same SWG. Give more info so there is no confusion.

JAMES, I SWEAR I've never been this swept away. Thanks for stretching your heat. I swear...love Philip.

MAIKON. ARE YOU here? Time is waiting.

PATRICIA J ...CO-WORKER never gave me your #; still flying? L.

TIM, I WAS in houston, you were in golden. where are you? i'm in topeka. mary

TOBY,HAPPY 30TH BIRTHDAY!all my love, Your Mom,Marije

ALL THAT JASS

I saw Mr. Right Jan. 20 at The Paramount Theatre and later at Jazz. If I ever see this man again I won't let him get away without a smooch. When: Friday, Jan. 20. Where: Paramount Theatre. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900245

YOUNG CURLY BLONDE

wearing a 'Sugar Bear' tattoo on your shoulder. You: Took a daybreak walk with me to Ben-n-Jerry's. Me: Watched you shake cocktail tray and black dress at Glass...Where y'at, Catfish? When: Saturday, Jan. 21. Where: Glass. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900244

JR BORDER STYLE

J.R., I LOVE YOU. The love that is elastic over time and healing on reflection. You will land on 2 feet and your exploding heart will shake those present. When: Tuesday, September 20. Where: austin. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #900243

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Each pass gives you all-access, unlimited searching, browsing, e-mailing, calling, and responding.

KRAZIE247

Pierced and Tattooed. looking for new friends and new experiences, wouldn't mind a sugar daddy or momma, just got divorced. **krazie247**, 29,  **#115367**

"IN-TENSE RELATIONS"

Beautiful Austin native. Down-to-earth female looking for males 18-25, to treat me right, night encounters and show me what passion can feel like. 36c, 25" waist. **LallisNow**, 22,  **#115320**

LETS HAVE FUN!

Single and loving it! No commitment, older woman seeking all men! Good teacher but good student too. Lets have fun! **SUE7769**, 41, **#115296**


NEED SOMETIME MAN

Attached to love one who is sick. Needing love to sustain me, if the energy is right. I'm pretty, funny, intelligent. U are a sensual, demonstrative and independent artist. Weekdays. **lola**, 45, **#115093**

NAIVE LUST

Looking for an open-minded, intellectual, attractive, sensual, interesting, family-oriented guy with no children; who is a pervert in the bed. I want the best of both worlds. Open to new ideas. **Vana**, 35, **#115092**

SHY SOFT MAMA

Happy in relationship seeking seldom but hot and important encounters with intellectual sweet caring maybe misunderstood man who enjoys still attractive well-groomed heavier busty women with brains and heart. **Gen28**, 28,  **#115038**

BEAUTIFUL BLONDE

Need some sexual fun with a woman and her man. I'm into watching and being watched. **singleSexy_intoSome**, 38, **#115267**

LOVE 2 TOUCH

new and sexy. **happy2bnatx**, 42, **#115294**

FORBIDDEN FANTASIES

36 yo /bi MWF, brown, blue, curvy, very shy and inexperienced but with many forbidden fantasies. White hot libido. Discretion crucial. Interested in younger males, females for erotic correspondence, more. **suegirlie**, 36, **#115171**

HOT AND READY

About myself, black female with short brown hair, full figured professional attached. Looking for a very pretty full figured female also attached for discreet fun. **Hottie**, 35,  **#115154**
THREESOME FANTASY BECKONS
Very pretty, sensuous, fun, smart, and erotic middle-aged female seeking attractive, fit, middle-aged couple for no strings attached, discreet one-time encounter. DDF. Photo on request. **wndbug**, 50, **#115554**

ROMANTIC NERD

I am a big nerd, I enjoy intelligent debate, gaming and a little romance. I love cuddling and long makeout sessions. I am always looking for new adventures in bed. **AmbyRhodes**, 18, **#115371**

SEXY SINGLE HORNEY


I am totally new at this and looking for someone to fulfill my fantasies. I am up for pretty much anything, and love to have people watch me. **shyslut**, 22, **#115060**

HEAT MATTERS


I've been in austin just for two weeks, want to know a sexy girl from 18 to 45, wants to have an amazing experience with 24 spanish guy. **sexyspaniard**, 22,  **#115608**

SEEKING IRREGULAR GIRL

laidback outdoor type seeking same. into; outdoor fun, indoor

adventure(lots), no clubs, not smoking, drinking, safe sex, bar-b-que, messy house, just hanging out. dad free only. no strings. **busyguy**, 44,  **#115597**


ADRENALINE JUNKIE

MWM-seeking someone to play with who wants to have fun. Riding 100 mph on my motorcycle or riding each other. You- At least 21, caucasian, very discreet, height & weight not important. **621809**, 32,  **#115590**


SHY BED-BUDDY

not really looking for anything too serious, doesn't mean there can't be some dating involved. prefer athletic, active women who are not self-conscious. just looking for some good "clean" fun. **faedrus**, 24, **#115565**


CURIOUS GEORGE

Actually fairly new to the area, really just curious about austin and the people. I wonder if I would be surprised or the other way around! **dcompton**, 25,  **#115563**

SCHIZOPHRENIC ARTIST

gwm 40 5'10" 200lbs darkhair darker eyes, seeking open minded, larger, hairy, tattooed teddy bear, slightly insane, to cuddle and wrestle with. horror films as forplay, **panic65**, 40,  **#115083**


ISO TOP MEN

35 latino bttm iso Arab, Middle Eastern , Indian or latino male who needs body rub down. Plus hairy chested, hairy bodies, mustache goatees. Str8, Bi married. discreet live North Austin. **tedrod24**, 37,  **#101244**

TOMORROW'S MAN TODAY

Almodovar, New Wave, Bastard Pop, Strangers With Candy, kitsch, my dog, Goldfrapp...These are a few of my favorite things. GWM, 35, seeks partner with similar interests who's tall and handsome. **kirkconnect**, 35, **#101123**


GIVING ORAL SERVICES

looking for males or females who need oral gratification. No reciprocation necessary. Want a little dalliance, someone who can devote themselves to your pleasure? Must have a place. **tbird2948**, 55,  **#101078**


STR8 GUYS MASSAGE

Str8 guys who need a massage from guy with magic hands. Be in shape and workout and need muscles relaxed after hard workout at gym or hard day at office. **MagicHands**, 39, **#115595**

LOOKING FOR FUN

I am looking for a bottom to have fun with that. I am strictly top and available during day time. **pf78660**, 31,  **#115551**

KINKY BOY SLUT

i like it all! **austinbi2**, 30,  **#115493**

DIRTY MBF

I'm your blk slut or dirty whore while husband watches or join in for fun. Husband wants me to dominate by 1 or 2 w/f, ages from 27 to 37. **swt2k**, 42, **#115473**

3-SOME MIDDLEMAN

Seek hot 3some, BiM/F couple as middle or either end, top or bottom. Seeking wide open relationship for fun exploration. **easyrider**, 56, **#115466**


LOOKING FOR FUN

I'm 33 married and always horny. Looking for fun on the side. Wife is out of town this weekend and wanting to entertain. Love bbw women, curious and like to be kinky. **kinkygelinman**, 33, **#115455**

FUNNY, KINKY, PLEASING

My wife and I are looking for a good looking women between the ages of 18-25 for a night of fun and exploring! **catdls1tech**, 21, **#115596**

LUST, TRUTH, OPEN, NO B.S.

We are looking for an attractive woman or couple to enjoy the best aspects of life. We do not care for dishonest, fake people. We want the real deal. **atx2ofakind**, 30,  **#115573**

2FOR1 NEVER LOOKED SO GOOD

We are looking for women only. No couples no men. Looking for a good time with a clean attractive lady or ladies. **cplskgirl**, 29, **#115491**

CURIOUS COUPLE

we're a very sexual couple who are looking to expand our sex lives. we are up to just about anything. **StrawberriMix**, 22,  **#115442**

WONT BE DISSAPOINTED

new freinds to party with. **race**, 38, **#115347**


GROUP LOOKING

Just looking to start a safe, comfortable, discreet group of locals (5 to 10 people) who are like minded that get together to explore their sexuality. **curious28tx**, 28, **#115213**

SEXY TS

iim a very sexy, very hot passable transsexual. iim 5'10 145 pounds with sexy hormonally induced breasts. iim very classy, too, and dress very provocatively. iim 28 years old. **nicole_anais**, 28,  **#115140**

FINGER LIKIN SWEET

Sexy TS Girl... Really Big Treat To Eat, blonde 29yo foxy, athletic, curves for young guys that work out and work it! 4 fun late night booty calls. **Blonde-Hottie**, 29,   **#101055**

BLONDE W/LEXUS SUV

You: Blonde eating breakfast w/friend Sunday at Maudie's. I was w/the guy who asked you where KrispyKreme was. We made eye contact during breakfast! How about meeting for food/drink sometime?!! **When: Sunday, Jan. 15. Where: Maudie's Too South Lamar. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900232**

AIDEN MY LOVE

I saw you at my house...you were sitting on my lap and left before i could say hello.....you were wearing a velour jumpsuit **When: Monday, Jan. 16. Where: my house. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900231**

CENTRAL MARKET REDHEAD

Hi, You helped me find some pre packaged side dishes before Christmas. I'm the tall black guy who decided to wait in the long line anyways. You're gorgeous. Drinks? **When: Friday, Dec. 23. Where: Central Market South. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900229**

HOWDY HONDA 1/18

Sat and talked with you about your 2001 Civic and school. You: long, black hair and dark skin, glasses, reading magazines. Me: glasses, black/yellow jacket, reading book. How about dinner? **When: Wednesday, Jan. 18. Where: Howdy Honda Dealership. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900242**

SEXY BLONDE SHEMALE

I am packman, Im Sorry, please give me another chance. I was nerve racked by your perfect looks and I am totally under your spell... I am Begging you. **When: Tuesday, Jan. 3. Where: Bout Time. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900241**

CCQ POR FAVOR!

Super-cute taco slinger smelling of ginger and mexican food with the cool hair...Nerdy McNerdsalot here hoping our paths might cross again soon. Keep it weird man! **When: Saturday, Nov. 5. Where: Guero's. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900240**

RUTA MAYA SMOKER

Smokin Cute Red Head. You tried to buy cigs and you did not have a picture ID on 1/17/06. Want to share a smoke and talk? I'm buying! **When: Tuesday, Jan. 17. Where: Ruta Maya. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900239**

UCHI SUSHI

We both sat at corner of sushi bar. You; beautiful woman. W/date? Me; w/brother. Our eyes met, we smiled. Let's have sushi together. **When: Tuesday, Jan. 17. Where: Uchi. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900238**

UCHI SUSHI

You; Beautiful woman at sushi bar. W/date? I was w/brother sitting next to you. WE smiled and had good eye contact. **When: Tuesday, Jan. 17. Where: Uchi. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900237**

JEGAR

I want to get closer. But it seems you dont. **When: Wednesday, Jan. 11. Where: Movies First. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900236**

WHOLE FOODS ENCOUNTER

Whole Foods today (1/18)3PM in the parking lot. You: Tall, blonde black skirt. Me: Tall, black jeans/t-shirt. I said "I really wasn't trying to run you over with my cart. You smiled as you passed. **When: Wednesday, Jan. 18. Where: Whole Foods Parking Lot. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900235**

SHOUTS & MURMURS

Friday, 1/6--Mean Eyed Cat, reading The New Yorker. I asked re: Mary Poppins article, should have asked for your name. Went back this week, but you must've been reading elsewhere... **When: Friday, Jan. 6. Where: Mean Eyed Cat. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900234**

A SHY NEIGHBOR

You were my neighbor, I am shy. We said "Hi" on the stairs. You have a small dog. You moved, I'm wishing we had dinner. Any chance you're reading this? **When: Wednesday, Jan. 4. Where: at my apartment. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900233**

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THE luv doc

Fronterafest Short Fringe Best of the Week

Saturday, January 28, 8pm
Hyde Park Theatre • 511 W. 43rd
www.fronterafest.org



It would be a serious chain yank to tell you that you're going to love everything you see at the Best of the Week FronteraFest show Saturday night at the Hyde Park Theatre. There will be ugliness. There will be a few gaffes, bloopers, and outtakes. There will be quiet, awkward moments when the dramatic ball is dropped, when you feel a vicarious blossom of sweat tickle your philtrum, when the fidgety creak of chairs and muffled coughs provide the only auditory signals that a performance is taking place. Hey, this ain't 42nd and Broadway, it's 43rd and Guadalupe. The neighborhood may seem safer, but it isn't – at least not artistically. FronteraFest is the cutting edge of experimental theatre, and when you're on the cutting edge, you have to expect a little abrasion. So if the avant garde doesn't flip your switch, or if you're not even sure what avant garde is, this may not be your festival. You may want to hold out for Winedale. If however, you don't mind a little schmutz on your Technicolor Dream Coat or more to the point, if your dream coat is sort of a patchy, rabbit fur jacket kind of affair, you should feel right at home. If you're on the fence, it should comfort you somewhat to know that Saturday's Best of the Week show is the crème de la crème of this week's Short Fringe, so even if it seems really atrocious, you may rejoice in knowing that some unlucky sap had to sit through something even worse earlier in the week. That ought to turn your frown upside down.

ENTER TO WIN!

Place a Lovers Lane profile with your photo before 5pm Friday, January 27, and you could win a \$150 salon treatment from JR Salon. The package includes a stress relieving scalp treatment, shampoo, cut, style, and hand massage as well as a brow wax and make up touch-up!

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